





## A Separate Quebec / Is Secession Legal?

## Supreme Court Hearings Deepen Canada's Rift

By Howard Schneider  
Washington Post Service

OTTAWA — For 400 years, the people of this northern land have argued over the place French culture has in the country called Canada. Over the past 30 years, they have fought over whether the mostly French-speaking province of Quebec should settle the matter for good by becoming an independent state.

Canada's Supreme Court has opened an extraordinary week of hearings that began by delving into the philosophical and legal roots of nationhood, and could end with the court specifying some ground rules for the country's disintegration.

It is a hearing that has sparked strong feelings throughout Canada, and that, as part of the dance that goes on between Quebec separatists and the rest of the country, is characterized as either a high-minded exercise in constitutional democracy, or a base play by Ottawa to convince Quebecers that they would be breaking the law if they tried to secede.

It is also proof that this country has made little if any progress toward reconciliation since an October 1995 referendum in which Quebec separatists came within a few thousand votes of a victory that would have set the stage for their own declaration of independence.

If anything, relations are at a low ebb. Even some pro-Canada forces in Quebec are angry about the federal government's use of the Supreme Court for what they feel are blatantly political ends; meanwhile, the province's separatist prime minister, Lucien Bouchard, is riding high in public opinion for his management of the recent ice-storm, and his followers have been bashing Ottawa for everything from refusing to pay for storm cleanup to not providing enough French at Team Canada's opening Olympic ceremony in Nagano, Japan.

There is even speculation that Mr. Bouchard, a master of well-timed political gambits, might stage a provincial election and follow-up referendum as early as this spring, though continuing budget problems and coming labor negotiations make that less likely. "There is a lot of tension in the air," said Yves Fortier, the lead lawyer for the federal government in the Supreme Court hearings.

It is an unusual proceeding that is by no means a legal "case" of the sort that courts usually decide. To begin with, the issue is, in some fundamental sense, beyond the court's reach: Imagine the U.S. Supreme Court in the 1860s telling the Confederacy it was unconstitutional to fire on Fort Sumter.

Additionally, there is no actual dispute for the court to decide. Rather, the hearings are part of the court's practice of occasionally accepting what are in essence hypothetical "references" that ask for non-binding guidance on Canada's constitution.

In this instance, the federal government a year and a half ago asked the nine-member panel to answer a series of questions about any move by Quebec to separate — namely whether, either under Canada's constitution or international law, Quebec could leave Canada unilaterally, without the agreement of either the federal government or the other provinces, or a constitutional amendment to authorize it.



Quebec's separatist leader, Lucien Bouchard, has urged the court to leave Ottawa's questions unanswered.

The federal government argues that the answer is no, and that any separation would require the involvement of the entire country, and a constitutional amendment approved by the rest of Canada.

Quebec, in another demonstration of the divide on this issue, has refused even to participate in the hearings on the grounds that the province's sovereignty "project" is a political issue for Quebecers to decide on their own. The terms of separation could perhaps be negotiated with the rest of Canada — that is what separatist leaders have said is their intent — but it certainly will not be governed by the strictures of a constitution that the province has never even ratified.

Mr. Bouchard emphasized that in a speech before a cheering crowd at the University of Montreal last week when he urged the court to leave the government's questions unanswered, or risk losing legitimacy in the eyes of Quebecers who feel the whole thing is a political ploy to intimidate them.

"Ottawa is asking judges to appoints unilaterally to rule on a constitution it imposed unilaterally so it can unilaterally oppose democracy," Mr. Bouchard said. "The right to choose — their government or their future — belongs to the Quebecers. It does not belong to the government."

That sentiment is shared by many federalists in Quebec as well, and their willingness to say so publicly has raised concerns that what looked like a strong play by Prime Minister Jean Chretien to stand up for Canada may backfire. In recent days, Liberal Party colleagues of Mr. Chretien have said

and nearly losing the country — Mr. Chretien now has government lawyers developing arguments about the conditions under which a country's authority over its territory take precedent over demands by individual groups for "self-determination."

A host of other parties, including representatives from several provinces, Indian groups and others, will make presentations during the week. At the end of the week, a court-appointed lawyer will present Quebec's case in the province's absence, arguing that under international law, a vote by Quebec to secede should be respected.

A decision is not expected until the summer or the fall. Even then, it is unclear what practical effect the court's advice will have. Even as Mr. Fortier and other government lawyers delve into the arcane of international law, they acknowledge, along with politicians such as Mr. Dion, that if Quebecers make a clear political decision to leave Canada, they will be allowed to do so.

Having won a referendum, for example, no separatist leader in Quebec is likely to defer to the Canadian Supreme Court; conversely, most analysts say it is improbable that, having lost a referendum, a Canadian prime minister would call on the military, for example, to enforce the constitution.

"Canada does not question or contest the right of Quebecers to decide their future," Mr. Fortier told the court, "including whether they choose to stay in Canada or separate."

the Supreme Court reference was a mistake, and that the issue of the province's status should be left to residents to decide.

Federal officials retort that the country's future is too important not to understand the rules of the game as thoroughly as possible.

"We need to have a clear process, within a legal framework, within a clear procedure," said Stephane Dion, Canada's minister for intergovernmental affairs. "I would not lose Canada through confusion."

The very existence of the case is part of the harder line toward the sovereignty movement that Ottawa has slowly adopted since the 1995 referendum. After largely ignoring the separatist threat in advance of that vote —

## Martha Gellhorn Dies, Journalist and Novelist

## Maverick Champion Of Ordinary People

By Rick Lyman  
New York Times Service

Martha Ellis Gellhorn, 89, who as one of the first female war correspondents covered a dozen major conflicts in a writing career that lasted 60 years, died Sunday at her home in London.

Ms. Gellhorn was a cocky, raspy-voiced, chain-smoking maverick who saw herself as a champion of ordinary people trapped in conflicts created by the rich and the powerful. That she was famous to many people largely for her five-year marriage to Ernest Hemingway, from 1940 to 1945, was a source of unending irritation to her, especially when critics tried to find parallels between her lean writing style and that of her more famous husband.

"Why should I be a footnote to somebody else's life?" she bitterly asked in an interview, pointing out that she had written two novels before meeting Hemingway and continued writing for almost a half-century after leaving him.

As a journalist, Ms. Gellhorn had no use for the notion of objectivity. The chief point of going to cover anything, she felt, was so you could tell what you saw, contradict the lies and let the bad guys have it.

Though best known for her ground-breaking journalism, Ms. Gellhorn was also an accomplished fiction writer, author of 5 novels, 14 novellas and 2 collections of short stories, many of which were based on people and incidents she encountered during her prodigious travels.

Fresh out of Bryn Mawr College in 1927, she began writing for the New Republic, then became a crime reporter in Albany, New York, then traveled to Europe.

Later, she met Harry Hopkins, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's confidant, and talked her way into a job with the New Deal, wandering America and writing about the effects of the Great Depression on ordinary people.

She went to Spain in 1937 with nothing but a knapsack and \$50, covered the conflict for Collier's Weekly and became Hemingway's lover.

She covered the blitz in London. On D-Day, she stowed away on a hospital ship and snuck ashore as a stretcher bearer. She got British pilots to let her ride along on night bombing raids over Germany. When the Allies liberated Dachau, she was there.

"Behind the barbed wire and the electric fence," she wrote of her visit to Dachau, "the skeletons sat in the sun and searched themselves for lice. They have no age and no faces; they all look alike and like nothing you will ever see, if you are lucky."

She covered Russia's war against Finland in 1939, trekked across China with Hemingway in 1940, and became increasingly critical of the United States, which she saw as a "colonial power," eventually settling abroad for good. She covered Vietnam, Nicaraguan contras, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the U.S. invasion of Panama at the age of 81. It was only when war came to Bosnia-Herzegovina that she gave it a pass.

"Too old," she said. "You have to be nimble for war."

Ms. Gellhorn's war correspondence was collected in "The Face of War" in 1959, but the book was later updated to include fresh conflicts. She always focused on foot soldiers and civilians, ignoring the generals.



Martha Gellhorn, in a 1943 photo, covered wars for more than 60 years.

Among her novels were "A Stricken Field" (1940), set among refugees in Prague just before the Nazi invasion; and "Liana" (1944) about the marriage of a mulatto woman and a rich white man in the French Caribbean.

Many reviewers felt Ms. Gellhorn was even more successful as a writer of novellas, and she was highly praised for "The Weather in Africa" (1988), three novellas set on that continent, and "The Novellas of Martha Gellhorn" (1993).

She was not without her critics, particularly political conservatives who sometimes painted her as a left-leaning dilettante. Some criticized her vivid journalism as being stylistically too much like fiction and her terse fiction as being stylistically too much like journalism. But in the end, her longevity and the compelling pull of her life story overrode such criticisms.

Ms. Gellhorn's father was a prominent doctor in St. Louis with progressive notions and her mother, whom she adored, was a suffragette and energetic social reformer. Her father pulled her out of a convent school when he discovered the nuns were teaching female anatomy with a textbook that had pictures covered over, and transferred her to a progressive school of which her mother was a co-founder. The school, which was co-educational, scandalized the conservative community. "You'd have thought she was trying to open a brothel," Ms. Gellhorn said later.

Her first marriage, in 1933 to Bertrand de Jouvenel, a French pacifist who was also the writer Colette's son-in-law, ended in divorce.

In 1936, she wandered into a bar in Key West and met Hemingway. They drank, became friends and, the next year they met again in Madrid. They married in 1940; she was Hemingway's third wife. She left him in 1945, walking out after an argument at London's Dorchester Hotel.

Ms. Gellhorn's third marriage, to T.S. Mathews, an editor at Time magazine, also ended in divorce. She told interviewers she just found married life too boring.

She wrote on an old, battered typewriter and had to quit in 1992 when a cataract operation left her with diminished eyesight and she felt she was too old to learn how to dictate.

She chain-smoked, drank and ate what she pleased. "It bores me, all that health stuff," she said. She told one woman who interviewed her late in life that "this conversation is so boring I think I'm going to faint."

But she told the same interviewer that she didn't mind getting old. "It gives you the freedom to do and say what you want," she said.

## Jacques Robert, French Resistance Leader, Dies at 83

New York Times Service

Jacques Robert, 83, a key leader of the French Resistance in World War II, died Feb. 8.

Mr. Robert, born in Paris, was decorated for bravery in action during the German invasion in 1940.

In August 1940, he joined the Resistance. He came to the attention of Gilbert Renault, the highest-ranking secret agent inside France for General Charles de Gaulle, the Free French leader.

Mr. Robert set up an underground Resistance group named Phratric.

Captain Andre Dewavrin, a senior de Gaulle aide known as Colonel Passy,

wrote later that Phratric was "the most extraordinary" network.

Ernst Juenger, 102, Writer Opposed Hitler

BERLIN (AP) — Ernst Juenger, 102, a World War I veteran who celebrated the Prussian military and attacked democracy in his influential early novels, yet went on to become a quiet opponent of Hitler, died Tuesday in Wildingen, a village near Lake Constance in southern Germany.

Mr. Juenger remained a controversial figure, loved and despised for his right-wing views and his mysticism. His best-known work was the 1920

wartime novel "Storms of Steel," in which he celebrated his experiences in the trenches and the military virtues of conquest and sacrifice.

Lord Granville of Evesham, the oldest member of the House of Lords, died in London on Saturday two days after celebrating his 100th birthday. He was elected to Parliament for the Liberal Party in 1929. He remained in the House of Commons until 1951, and was made a life peer in 1967.

Fernando Abril Martorell, 61, a former deputy prime minister in Spain's first post-dictatorship government, died Monday in Madrid of lung cancer.

Anthony Le Vier, 84, a test pilot who helped pioneer the development of U.S. jet fighters in the 1940s and '50s and who made the first test flights of the U-2 spy plane, died Feb. 6 in Glendale, California.

Thomas Chapin, 40, one of the more exuberant jazz saxophonists and band leaders, died Friday at Rhode Island Hospital in Providence of complications from leukemia.

Leonard K.C. Ho, president of Golden Harvest (HK) Ltd., one of Asia's largest film studios, died Monday of a heart attack in Hong Kong. He was in his 60s.

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## TRAVEL UPDATE

## Greek Farmers End Road Blockade

ATHENS (AP) — Thousands of farmers removed their barricades from the country's main highways Tuesday after failing in a month-long bid to force higher subsidies out of the Socialist government.

Prime Minister Costas Karamanlis refused to bow to farmers' demands, saying they would have cost Greece close to 1 trillion drachmas (\$3.5 billion) and endangered the country's relations with the European Union. Other demands included lower prices for fuel and an amnesty for some debts to state agricultural banks.

## Vatican to Build 6-Story Garage

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Strapped for parking space, the Vatican has joined forces with the city of Rome in building a six-story underground garage to help handle the millions of extra visitors expected for year 2000 celebrations.

## Fire Shuts Rio's Domestic Airport

RIO DE JANEIRO (Reuters) — Rio's domestic Santos Dumont Airport was not expected to resume its busy shuttle service to Sao Paulo for at least two months after a fire damaged its main terminal last week, Globo TV said Monday.

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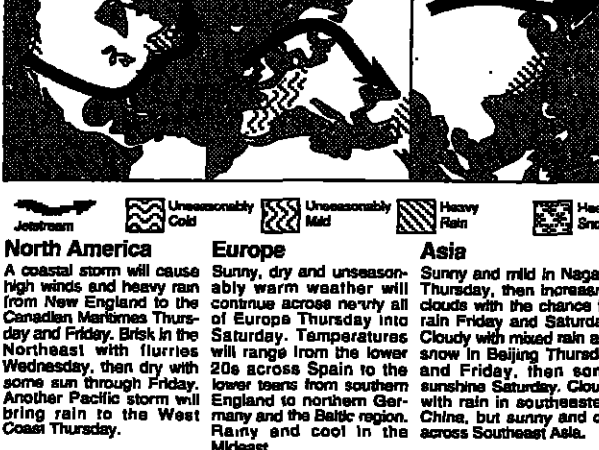
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## WEATHER

Forecast for Thursday through Saturday, as provided by AccuWeather.



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Legend: sunny, partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-snow, h-hurricane, f-fog, s-snow, w-wind.

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## THE AMERICAS

## More Firms Pitch Psychiatric Drugs Straight to Patients

By Milt Freudenheim  
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Using tactics that would have been unthinkable a few years ago, the pharmaceutical industry is increasingly marketing mental health drugs directly to consumers.

In a break with past practice, which was simply to advertise in medical magazines and pitch to doctors, manufacturers of anti-depressants began advertising in general-interest magazines for the first time last year. Several companies have promoted psychotherapeutic drugs to mental health patients and their families through the Internet and sophisticated direct mailings.

The marketing of mental health drugs to consumers, which surged last year, added to the explosive growth of direct-to-consumer ad-

vertising of many types of prescription drugs. Drug companies say the advertising and other marketing tactics provide information that helps patients overcome their problems.

Spokesmen for the industry add that patients are protected because only a doctor can write a prescription. But critics say patients who are influenced by the marketing programs may seek out doctors who might be willing to prescribe drugs that are not right for them.

Some doctors and patient advocates say that people with certain mental illnesses are much more susceptible to being manipulated than those with other medical problems.

While the problems of ill-advised self-medication and invasion of privacy may apply to any patient taking medication, doctors say that the mentally ill are especially vulnerable. "There continues to be a clear

stigma against the mentally ill in America," said Dr. Harold Eist, a former president of the American Psychiatric Association.

In the most aggressive example of approaching patients directly, Eli Lilly & Co. said recently that it would offer scholarships to some schizophrenic patients who took Zyprexa, its new anti-psychotic drug.

In a second approach, a number of drug companies are finding new ways to collect the names of people with mental health problems, as well as other information about them — data that can be used for marketing purposes. Janssen Pharmaceutica, for example, urges visitors to its Internet site to register for updates on psychiatry and schizophrenia "relevant to your personal interests."

In a related program, Janssen, a unit of Johnson & Johnson, urged users of Risperdal, its schizophrenia

drug, to call a toll-free number to join a "person-to-person" program that includes reminder calls to take the Janssen drug. Spokesmen for the companies said the aim was to provide patients with information that they could discuss with their doctors. But critics said that a drug company could follow up on the initial contact with personalized letters to patients suggesting they demand a particular drug from their doctors, whether or not it was appropriate.

Another tactic involves drugs for depression. Several companies began advertising such drugs in general-interest magazines last year. Lilly has sponsored the most extensive of the campaigns for its anti-depressant Prozac, which had sales of more than \$1.9 billion last year.

Some Prozac ads have included postcards that invited readers to send for information kits, to provide information about any treatment for depression and to agree, in a box labeled "Privacy Respected," to permit Lilly "and its business partners" to use the information, which the company said it would use to develop products and services.

Lilly declined to be interviewed on the campaign, but a spokesman for the drug industry strongly defended the ads. "Direct-to-consumer drug advertising is a First Amendment right," said Jeffrey Trewin, an official of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, a trade group in Washington.

Dr. Eist of the American Psychiatric Association said he did not object to advertising of such drugs but said the collection of information on patients was "egregiously intrusive." He called the drug companies' data bases "so close to George Orwell's '1984' that it's terrifying."

## POLITICAL NOTES

## Christians Pick Their Crusader

WASHINGTON — The Christian Coalition has polled its leadership and decided that Senator John Ashcroft, Republican of Missouri, should be the next president and that the Republican governor of Arkansas, Mike Huckabee, should be his vice president. As for the Democrats, they should just forget about the next presidential election.

The poll of 65 Christian Coalition state chairmen and other top officials was conducted recently during the group's conference in Virginia Beach. They were given a list of about 45 names, Republicans, Democrats, independents, "basically every candidate whose name has been bandied about in the media," a coalition official said.

Mr. Ashcroft, who was named first or second choice on 29 ballots, was the clear winner, followed by Mr. Huckabee with 16 first- or second-place mentions. Other top vote-getters, all Republicans, were Steve Forbes and Representative J.C. Watts Jr. of Oklahoma, with 15 votes each, Governor George Bush of Texas, with 10, and former Vice President Dan Quayle, with eight.

The Missouri senator also no doubt enhanced his appeal to these Christian activists with his early and stinging criticism of President Bill Clinton over the sex and perjury allegations surrounding him.

The coalition was careful to include Democratic names, including Vice President Al Gore. The Democrats got a grand total of zero votes. (WP)

## Democrats Struggle With Race

TALLAHASSEE, Florida — The workday had come to an end, and state Representative Willie Logan was preparing to leave his office when he got an e-mail last month that sent him into a tailspin: Democrats had called a meeting for the next day to remove him from his leadership position in the Florida House of Representatives.

The next day, without debate or explanation, the House Democratic Caucus voted to strip Mr. Logan — who would have become the first black House speaker in Florida's history, should Democrats regain their majority — of his title. Mr. Logan and 13 other black members of the caucus angrily stomped out before the vote was called.

Less than a year earlier, Mr. Logan had been installed as speaker-designate and caucus leader amid much pomp and circumstance. His ouster has infuriated Florida blacks, who said Democrats had pulled the plug because he is black.

The episode has added to the troubles of the Democratic Party in a state it once dominated, and has underscored the difficulty it is having, particularly in the South, attracting white voters while holding on to blacks and traditional constituencies, analysts said. (WP)

## Quote/Unquote

Barry McCaffrey, head of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, on the declaration by the House speaker, Newt Gingrich, Republican of Georgia, that the administration's long-term plan to reduce illegal drug use was dead on arrival in Congress: "I'm sympathetic to partisan wrangling and know that Newt Gingrich is looking for issues for the midterm election, but that's not what I signed up to do. I'm afraid he's going to do a disservice to a comprehensive strategy. I think the American people deserve better than a hasty, partisan response from Newt Gingrich." (AP)

## Away From Politics

• A former Naval Academy midshipman who confessed to helping her fiancé kill his onetime lover, then tearfully told a jury she was not involved, has been found guilty of murder. Diane Zamora, 20, received a life sentence. (AP)

• Two teenage sisters accused of setting a fire outside their parents' bedroom in Little Rock, Arkansas, were charged with capital murder for the blaze that killed their father and injured their mother. (AP)

• One of six women who accused the army's former top enlisted soldier of sexual misconduct said she came forward only after she was ordered to do so and was granted immunity from prosecution. Major Michelle Gunzelman was to return to the stand as the court-martial of former Sergeant Major Gene McKinney entered its third week. (AP)

• Flooding closed schools and highways in parts of Florida after two days of storms that pounded the Gulf Coast states with tornadoes, high wind and rain. (AP)



The bailiff, left, walking Diane Zamora into the courtroom in Fort Worth, Texas. Found guilty of capital murder, she will be eligible for parole after 40 years. (David Wolf/The Associated Press)

No Break for Mom  
Maternity Benefits for U.S. Mothers  
Are Called Least Generous in WorldBy Kirstin Grimsley  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The maternity and nursing benefits given to working mothers in the United States are the least generous in the industrialized world, according to a report released by the International Labor Organization, a United Nations agency.

The report, which reviewed maternity leave and health benefits mandated by law in 152 countries, found that about 80 percent of the countries offered paid maternity leave to workers. About a third of the countries permitted the leaves to last for more than 14 weeks.

Hungary, for example, gives 24 weeks of paid maternity leave, while Italy offers five months. Canada gives 17 weeks, and Spain and Romania each allow 16 weeks.

In the United States, the only law mandating maternity leave is the Family and Medical Leave Act, passed in 1993, which permits workers to take as much as 12 weeks unpaid leave for a variety of medical conditions, including childbirth. Many American women, however, work for companies that voluntarily offer their workers some paid maternity leave.

The disparity between maternity benefits in the United States and elsewhere is a reflection of American laissez-faire political attitudes, said Alfred Kahn, a Columbia University professor who studies comparative social policies.

"We have a very strong industrial lobby and weak labor unions, and it has only been recently that the country has absorbed the fact that most women are working," he said.

Kristin Hogarth, a spokeswoman for the National Federation of Independent Business, said the government should not mandate maternity leave policies. "We feel like the government shouldn't be telling small business owners how to run their businesses," she said.

Ms. Hogarth added that many of the countries with costly benefits consequently suffered economic problems.

## Clinton's Diehard Constituents: Blacks

By Katharine Q. Seelye  
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Blacks have always provided one of the most reliable bases of support for President Bill Clinton, and black political leaders have been an unwavering constituency as Mr. Clinton faces a dire threat to his presidency.

When reports first surfaced more than three weeks ago that Mr. Clinton might have been sexually involved with a White House intern, a number of the president's usual allies faltered. Women's groups, fell silent. Influential Democrats did not step forward. Even the trusty vice president, Al Gore, was slow to muster a robust defense.

While many of these allies have since rallied around the president — and his job-approval rating is at a high — many black politicians never hesitated to demonstrate their support.

When the scandal broke on Jan. 21, many black members of Congress immediately called the White House to see how they could help.

Representative John Conyers Jr. of Michigan, the ranking Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, was instrumental in the earliest counterattack strategy against Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel investigating Mr. Clinton. And when the president stepped into the House chamber on Jan. 27 to deliver his State of the Union message, black members of Congress lined the aisle to show their support.

"It's almost a spiritual thing," said Representative John Lewis, a Georgia Democrat and a leader in the civil-rights movement. "This president has stood with us. I hate to use trite sayings, but he feels what we feel. This president understands African-Americans better than any other president in modern times. He comes to the black churches. He can sing the songs without even looking at the hymnal."

Mr. Clinton's support among black political leaders is echoed throughout the black population. Many blacks have long felt a spiritual kinship with Mr. Clinton, a son of the South with an

abiding sensitivity to racial matters. He won 84 percent of the black vote in the 1996 presidential election — even after he had signed legislation slashing welfare benefits.

Black support for Mr. Clinton remained strongly in evidence in the early days of the sex scandal. The New York Times/CBS News Poll found that after the reports first surfaced — but before the State of the Union message, when public approval generally began to climb — 81 percent of blacks approved of the job he was doing, compared with 52 percent of whites.

Of course, Mr. Clinton's policies have generally helped members of minorities. Supporters can point to his appointing several blacks to the cabinet, advocating a raise in the minimum wage, making college affordable and defending affirmative action. Although many blacks on Capitol Hill say he has infuriated them with centrist political calculations like support for the death penalty, they say he has been better than any Republican would have been.

## Bars in California Blow Smoke at Ban

By William Claiborne  
Washington Post Service

LOS ANGELES — A growing number of California tavern owners are thumbing their noses at the only statewide ban on barroom smoking in the United States, allowing patrons to light up and blow smoke in the face of authority.

Although the six-week-old smoking ban provides for escalating fines for bar owners who allow smoking, reports from around the state indicate that enforcement by local jurisdictions depends mostly on response to complaints. Even at that, it has been spotty at best, with compliance in many areas but open defiance in others.

Some jurisdictions have sent health inspectors or fire marshals to check on complaints. But many local governments, lacking adequate resources, have merely mailed warning notices to alleged offenders upon receiving a complaint. Moreover, while bar owners are re-

quired to ask offending patrons to stop smoking, they are not required under the law to eject them or take other steps to enforce the ban. As a result, many bar operators acknowledge that they signal their intentions by smiling when they ask a patron to refrain from smoking and then turn their back on violators.

"The law requires us to post the signs and inform the customers that they are not supposed to smoke. We're not required to eject them," said Beverly Swanson, owner of the One Double On Seven Club in Santa Cruz. "People in bars are smoking. You can call it civil disobedience, but you can also call it being backed into a corner and trying to keep your business alive."

Jim Keenan, owner of the Nite Hawk Tavern in Sacramento, said, "Most of my customers comply, but if someone lights up, I will not confront him. There's nothing in the law that says I have to confront or eject a smoker."

In the first court test of the ban, the owner of a bar in Roseville, northeast of

Sacramento, pleaded not guilty Friday to a charge of allowing patrons to smoke and was scheduled for a nonjury trial on March 13. In a courtroom packed with fellow tavern owners, Bill Ostrander, 70, who faces a \$100 fine if convicted, said, "I fought a war to keep this country free. The state didn't buy that bar. I bought that bar with hard work."

More than 100 bar owners recently gathered in Sacramento to form an association and discuss rebellion strategies, including raising a legal defense fund for members who are cited under the ban and pulling the plugs on machines that dispense state lottery tickets in taverns.

The group's contention that at least stand-alone bars without restaurant facilities should be exempted from the no-smoking law received a boost from Governor Pete Wilson, an occasional cigar smoker, who suggested last month that smokers should have "some sort of sanctuary" and that bar owners should have the option to allow smoking.

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## ASIA/PACIFIC

Airbuses in Taiwan  
Grounded After Crash

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TAIPEI — Taiwan grounded China Airlines' Airbus fleet Tuesday as it searched for clues to the nation's worst air disaster.

With no signs of life in the wreckage strewn across a residential area abutting Taipei's main airport, the authorities turned their energies to identifying the dead, consoling the living and trying to understand what happened.

Rescuers who combed the debris by hand through a rainy night turned to heavier equipment by day, using backhoes to lift away twisted chunks of fuselage and shattered homes.

The crash killed 196 passengers and crew and seven people whose homes near the airport were bombed by flaming debris. Two children pulled alive from the wreckage died later.

Airline executives said the twin-engine Airbus A300-600R wide-body jet that crashed in a fireball while landing in heavy fog Monday had recently been given a clean bill of health.

"The Airbus underwent a maintenance check in February," a China Airlines spokesman said. "We found no problems. The plane was in good condition."

"The chances of mechanical malfunction were very slim," the spokesman added.

Taiwan civil aviation authorities ordered China Airlines to ground its nine remaining Airbus A300-600R jets, forcing it to cancel at least six flights.

Officials said the grounding would

end once investigators were convinced of the fleet's airworthiness.

At a makeshift morgue at the crash site, grieving relatives in plastic protective smocks peered under long rows of white sheets to glimpse — and, it was hoped, identify — the charred and in some cases dismembered bodies of the victims. DNA sampling was being used to identify the unrecognizable.

Though the passengers included the Central Bank governor, Sheng Yuan-dong, his wife and three bank officials returning from a meeting, most were families and newlyweds who had made package tour vacations in Bali. Among the dead were 13 members of a single Taiwan family as well as five Americans, one Indonesian and one Frenchman.

Although the plane crashed in fog and a light rain, investigators were looking elsewhere for the cause. Initial information suggested that despite the weather, the pilots had been on a routine approach until just before the crash.

A recording of cockpit conversations with the control tower indicated that the pilot of the twin-engine Airbus sought permission to land when the jet still was on course. But he then lost touch and did not answer a question about whether he would try a second approach.

Chang Kuo-cheng, Taiwan's deputy director of civil aeronautics, said the plane hit a utility pole and a traffic median in a road about 70 meters (200 feet) from the runway. It then skidded into several houses and exploded.

(Reuters, AP)



Soldiers inspecting wreckage where the China Airlines flight crashed.

Asia's Anti-Americanism  
Puts Relations at Risk

Some See 'U.S. Imperialism' in Aid Offers

By Nicholas D. Kristof  
New York Times Service

SEOUL — From America it may seem as if the United States is rescuing Asia from its economic mess, but gratitude is not the most striking emotion here in the region.

Instead, the rumblings of resentment and the stirrings of anti-Americanism seem most prominent.

"Just as the fall of the Berlin Wall represents a political and ideological victory for the U.S. over socialism, the collapse of the economies in Asia marks another more subtle triumph of U.S. financial imperialism over the rest of this region," declared The Nation, a Thai newspaper.

Another Thai daily, Matichon, warned that the West was aiming for the "intellectual colonialism" of Asia, and denounced the "financial and economic wars" that it said the West had mounted to humiliate the region.

Many people do feel gratitude toward the United States for its help, and there is more annoyance at the politicians in their own capitals than at those in Washington. But although the anti-American sentiment so far is mild, many diplomats and scholars warn that a prime risk in Asia in the coming months is a heightened hostility that could complicate U.S. business and diplomacy in the region.

"There is a lot of pain here, and the pain is turning to anger," David Shambaugh, director of the Sigur Center for Asian Studies at George Washington University in Washington, said during a recent visit to Asia. "The anger has yet to be vented at the United States. Still, that could happen, because there's latent anti-Americanism in a lot of the countries."

For now, nations like Thailand feel annoyed that the United States has not done more to help its old friends in Asia. Throughout the region there is also irritation that the United States is using the crisis as leverage to force countries to open up previously closed markets.

Even in Japan, which these days is one of the least nationalistic countries in the region, there is talk that the opening of financial markets starting this year will lead to a "second period of American rule," parallel to the American occupation at the end of World War II.

"Many people in this part of the world are grateful for American help, but they also resent what they see as strong-arm tactics," M. Yoshino, a professor at Harvard Business School and expert on Asia, said by telephone during a visit to Singapore.

Indeed, there are even various conspiracy theories making the rounds. One is that the CIA and the U.S. State Department, which are given much more credit in Asia for effectiveness than they are at home, plotted Asia's crisis to win trade negotiations, put down China and bolster their influence in the region.

"The United States is certainly not offering a new Marshall Plan to East Asia," said China's Communist Party newspaper, People's Daily. "By giving help, it is forcing East Asia into submission, promoting the American economic and political model and easing East Asia's threat to the American model."

The upshot is that while Americans fret over whether it has been worthwhile to support the International Monetary Fund and its rescue packages for Thailand, South Korea and Indonesia, the fear in Asia is that the United States has gained too much.

It is notable that in South Korea — where many analysts had been particularly apprehensive about anti-Americanism — the mood has swung the other way.

Suspicion of U.S. policy is deep-rooted in South Korea, and when the country was teetering on the verge of collapse in November and early December, it was routine to hear blame piled on the United States. Now there is much less of that, and newspapers and politicians say the economic restructuring and more open markets will be in Korea's interests.

"Now the question is how we can feed 45 million people in this country and 20 million in the North," said Lee Shin Bom, a member of the Korean National Assembly.

As a result, Mr. Lee said, Korea will accept foreign investments that once would have ruffled.

The turnaround in South Korean public opinion appeared to come after the nation's leading newspaper, Chosun Ilbo, ran a series of editorials that defied the conventional wisdom of the time and laid the blame for the economic crisis squarely on Korea's own shoulders.

In addition, the dissident Kim Dae Jung was elected president in December and immediately began to work to build a consensus for economic reform.

Mr. Kim calls on Koreans to accept foreign investment and other changes not because they are forced to, but because this is the best way to rebuild the economy. Mr. Kim's spokesman, Ben Limb, said one result would be a welcome mat for foreign companies interested in setting up shop in South Korea.

## Similar Causes Resulted in Six Deadly Air Disasters in Asia

The Associated Press

TOKYO — The crash of a China Airlines plane in Taiwan was the sixth major crash of a jetliner in the Asia-Pacific region in about six months, raising the overall death toll to 937.

Five of the crashes occurred while jetliners were landing or approaching airports and the planes were coping with obstacles such as fog, rain or smog from forest fires.

Last month, Flight International, a British aviation magazine, reported that crashes caused by pilot miscalculation during descent killed 640 people around the world in 1997, more than in any previous year. The magazine said its survey showed that such crashes remain the biggest cause of airline passenger deaths.

The accidents happen in clouds or darkness, usually on the descent toward an airport. The crew members make a navigational error or descend too low, or both, so that the aircraft hits the ground without the crew realizing the danger.

"We are getting more and more concerned about all the crashes that are taking place in the Asia-Pacific while

planes are landing," Dayanthe Athuladhamudali, assistant director of the International Air Transport Association in Singapore, said Tuesday. He said the causes of the last six crashes were still being investigated.

In the last few years, the amount of air traffic in Asia's emerging markets has been mushrooming.

The magazine International Air Transport Association estimated that international passenger traffic in the Asia-Pacific would triple, from 135 million trips to 400 million trips from 1995 to 2010, although that was before Asia began to suffer a major economic crisis last summer.

Before the accident Monday, the last five major crashes that have occurred in the Asia-Pacific region were:

• Feb. 2, 1998: A McDonnell Douglas DC-9 aircraft operated by Cebu Pacific Air crashed into a mountain in the southern Philippines, covered by fog and rain, killing all 104 people aboard. The crash occurred near the airport where the plane was scheduled to land on a domestic flight.

• Dec. 19, 1997: A Singapore-owned SilkAir Bo-

ing 737 crashed into the Musi River on Sumatra, Indonesia, killing all 104 people aboard. The plane was flying from Jakarta to Singapore and crashed midway between the two cities. The reason it fell from cruising altitude is not known, and less than half its wreckage was recovered from the fast-flowing river.

• Sept. 26, 1997: A Garuda Airbus A-300 approaching Medan Airport in northern Sumatra crashed into a jungle slope while trying to land in a thick smog caused by forest fires in Indonesia, killing all 234 aboard.

• Sept. 3, 1997: A Vietnam Airlines Tupolev TU-134B trying to land after a flight from Vietnam to Cambodia crashed into palm trees and bamboo, skid into a rice paddy and exploded in flames during a severe rain storm near Pochentong Airport in Phnom Penh. Sixty-four people were killed, and two passengers, both young boys, survived.

• Aug. 5, 1997: A Korean Airlines Boeing 747 crashed into a deep ravine and burned during a rainstorm, just five kilometers (three miles) from its landing destination on Guam. The accident killed 228 people; 26 survived.

## India Orders New Vote in 600 Districts

Reuters

NEW DELHI — Hundreds of thousands of Indians will have to vote again after election commissioners ordered a rerun of polling in nearly 600 stations after violence in which at least two dozen people died.

The independent election commission Tuesday ordered a new vote at 599 of the estimated 350,000 stations involved in the first phase of general elections in the vast Asian nation, which has 605 million eligible voters.

Acrimony raged over the bloodshed of the first day of voting Monday in which at

least 25 people were killed and dozens wounded, with politicians blaming both the authorities and their rivals.

The casualty toll was highest in the crime-plagued eastern state of Bihar, where gun-toting activists battled over ballot papers and Maoists opposed to the election detonated land mines.

Violence continued Tuesday in Coimbatore, a textile city in the southern state of Tamil Nadu, where 56 people were killed by bomb blasts over the weekend.

The police said four boys were killed in Coimbatore by another bomb that went off

while they were playing cricket in the street.

A senior police officer said that a second bomb had been found in a school playground elsewhere in the city, where tension between the majority Hindu and minority Muslim communities has simmered for weeks.

"Outwardly things appear calm with public buses plying as usual, but everybody's tense because it's hard to say what might happen next," said a resident of the R. S. Puram area, where three bombs exploded Saturday.

Coimbatore votes next Sunday in the second phase of

elections for India's 545-member lower house of Parliament. Further voting will be held Feb. 23, Feb. 28 and March 7.

Counting of the ballots starts March 2 and most results will be known by March 3.

Local news media reports said the voter turnout on the first, and biggest, day of voting was 50 percent to 55 percent. About 250 million Indians were eligible to vote Monday.

Turnout for all phases of general elections combined has declined from a peak of 64 percent in 1984 to 62 percent in 1989, 61 percent in 1991 and 58 percent in 1996.

Analysts said the modest participation rate was a clear sign of voter fatigue after the last election, an uninspiring campaign this time around and fear of violence.

"The low turnout of voters in Tamil Nadu confirms that the fear psychosis has entered the minds of the people," said Venkaiah Naidu, general secretary of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, which is expected to win the most seats.

## BRIEFLY

Opposition Member  
Is Jailed in Burma

RANGOON — A member of Burma's opposition party who won a seat in the 1990 election but was never allowed to take her place in Parliament has been sentenced to two years in prison, the party said Tuesday.

Daw Nan Khin Hwe Myint was arrested in Thabon, 150 kilometers (90 miles) east of the capital, on Feb. 9, while on her way to the Rangoon home of the opposition leader, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the party said. It said she was charged with interfering with an officer on duty.

Three other National League for Democracy members were detained last week, the party said. (AP)

China Official Urges  
Political Reforms

BEIJING — A Chinese government official has joined a chorus of calls for democracy, saying the press should serve as a check and balance mechanism to stamp out corruption.

Zhou Wenzhang, deputy director of the Research and Development Center of the Hainan provincial government, said political reforms were "neces-

sary and important," the China Economic Times reported Tuesday.

His view echoes that of dissidents and some Chinese intellectuals, who have clamored for political reforms.

But Mr. Zhou tempered his calls for change with communist jargon such as upholding "the dictatorship of the proletariat." (Reuters)

## 21 Slain in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO — Fresh fighting in Sri Lanka has left 21 people dead, including 15 soldiers killed by Tamil Tiger rebels in the north, military officials said Tuesday.

They said at least eight soldiers were killed and three others wounded when Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam rebels attacked their vehicle on the Vavuniya-Mannar road Tuesday. Some officials said a land mine had exploded under the military vehicle, while others said the rebels had fired a rocket-propelled grenade at it. (Reuters)

## For the Record

A Japanese court ordered the Shinrikyo cult, blamed for the 1995 nerve gas attack on the Tokyo subway, to pay damages Tuesday to a fertilizer factory president it had falsely accused of attempted murder. (AP)

Police Beef Up  
Urban Patrols  
In Indonesia

The Associated Press

JAKARTA — Indonesian security forces patrolled more than a dozen towns Tuesday in their struggle to keep the peace during the economic crisis.

In recent days five people have been killed in violence linked to price increases of basic commodities, including at least two shot by military officers.

Dozens of Chinese-owned stores and houses have been damaged, looted and burned by mobs.

In the latest violence Tuesday several hundred people, complaining of high prices, ransacked a store and threw food and other merchandise into a street in Muaranim, 430 kilometers (265 miles) northwest of Jakarta.

The official Antara news agency reported that the police in eastern Java have warned they would shoot rioters "who pose great danger to others."

Over the weekend the military defended the deadly shootings of two men, saying they had threatened troops with steel bars and machetes as security personnel tried to quell a riot.

Since Friday, mobs on Java, Lombok, Sumatra and Sulawesi islands have attacked property owned by the ethnic Chinese minority.

British Couple Survives  
Shipwreck Near Australia

Reuters

SYDNEY — A British couple survived huge seas and gale-force winds by clinging to a rock in the Southern Ocean overnight after their yacht was destroyed in a storm, Australian rescue officials said Tuesday.

The couple, Peter and Doreen Cheek, radioed for help after their 12-meter (39-foot) yacht, Talis II, began dragging its anchor in bad weather near Maatsuyker Island, about 30 kilometers (18 miles) south of Australia's island state of Tasmania.

David Gray, a spokesman for Australian Search and Rescue, said that, after the couple sent out a Mayday call, the yacht was smashed against rocks and destroyed.

The couple escaped the wreck in the yacht's dinghy, but it was overturned in a huge swell. Mr. Gray said, "They swam to a rock and pulled themselves up with help and then they clung there."

Once on the rock, which was pounded through the night by large waves, Mr. Cheek, 62, and Mrs. Cheek, 58, covered themselves with grass as protection from the cold until they were plucked to safety by a helicopter about seven hours later.

The Cheeks, from East Cowes, Isle of Wight, had been halfway through a five-year round-the-world voyage on a 20-year-old timber sloop when they radioed for help.

The barren rock island is home to Australia's most southern lighthouse and is battered year-round by Antarctic storms that charge out of the Southern Ocean.

"They are lucky to be alive," Mr. Gray said. "The conditions were atrocious — 45-knot winds and three-to-four meter seas." Another yacht sheltering from the storm picked up the couple's call for help and contacted Australian police, who alerted maritime rescue headquarters in Canberra.

The Cheeks, suffering mild hypothermia, were flown to a hospital in Hobart.

## IN MEMORIAM

His Highness  
Joachim Ernst Herzog von Anhalt

Herzog zu Sachsen

Ballenstedt (Sachsen-Anhalt)

\* Dessau Nov. 1, 1901

† Buchenwald Feb. 18, 1947

Last reigning Duke of Anhalt and donor of the famous Askanian culture foundations "Joachim-Ernst-Stiftung" and "Theaterstiftung" in Dessau (usurped by the Nazis in 1934, renamed by the Communists to "Kulturstiftung Dessau-Wörlitz" in 1945 and expropriated and liquidated in 1950)

## Persecuted by two Terror Regimes in Germany

1939 - 45 Nazi-Germany: Forced labour in armament plants and imprisoned in the Dachau concentration camp

1945 - 47 Communist Germany: Arrested on August 31st, 1945 by the Soviet Secret Police (NKWD) as an alleged Nazi-criminal after denunciation by German communists, confiscation of the family properties, imprisonment and death in the NKWD-Special Detention Camp No. 2 (former Nazi-KZ Buchenwald)

## Rehabilitation by Democratic Russia

1992/94 Recognition as victim of Soviet communist repression (together with his surviving children) and rehabilitation by order of the Prosecutor General of the Russian Federation

Today's Germany and the State of Sachsen-Anhalt, on which his princely ancestors centuries ago bestowed their name, have forgotten this man of honor and important donor of the cultural heritage of the Askanian House. The German Government continues to deny the family of the innocent victim of two terrorist German regimes the recognition of his rehabilitation and the return of his stolen properties to his legal heirs, but instead enriches itself with the property.

## The surviving children:

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## EUROPE

## Warning the Cabinet, Yeltsin Demands Sustainable Economic Growth

**MOSCOW** — President Boris Yeltsin put pressure Tuesday on both his government and the lower house of Parliament, which is dominated by the opposition, by demanding sustainable economic growth and a realistically amended budget.

"We are stuck on the middle of a bridge," Mr. Yeltsin said in his annual address to the lower house, the State Duma, and the upper house, the Federation Council.

"The inflationary past is behind us but we have failed to reach the investment future," he said.

Analysts welcomed the speech as a demonstration of fresh resolve to improve the economy.

Mr. Yeltsin also said that if NATO enlarged to embrace the three Baltic states, it would spoil ties between Moscow and the Western alliance.

Mr. Yeltsin said that Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin's reformist cabinet would be fired if it did not deliver on crucial targets.

The budget, a workable tax code and growth through investment in industry rather than market speculation.

"This is not the first time that I am setting these tasks," he said. "From one message to another I am speaking about the need for a realistic budget, about ending nonpayments, about industrial policy, about economizing."

"I will no longer repeat this. If the government is not able to solve these strategic tasks, then we will have to change another government," he said, prompting deputies to clap for the only time during his half-hour speech.

By calling for amendments to the 1998 budget to reflect the impact on Russia of the world financial crisis, Mr. Yeltsin applied equal pressure to the Duma just as the head of the International Monetary Fund, Michel Camdessus, was arriving in Moscow to review reforms.

The budget was to face its fourth and final Duma reading on Wednesday but that could be postponed after Mr. Yeltsin's remarks.

Normally a fourth reading is a formality before the Federation Council

considers the budget and the president then approves it. The IMF and Russia's government consider a realistic budget and simplified tax code, which are both awaiting Duma clearance, to be vital for Russia's long march from a planned to a market economy.

The fund is considering paying further installments of a \$9.2 billion loan. It briefly halted credits late last year over concerns that the government was failing to collect taxes.

Mr. Yeltsin said he wanted this IMF loan to be the last.

The 67-year-old president, speaking firmly and at times jabbing the air for emphasis, devoted most of his speech in the Kremlin's Marble Hall to the economy.

"The Russian government will further protect property, secure economic freedom and a market economy, retain low inflation and firm rate for the ruble," he said. "But today that is not enough. We need stable and proper economic growth, a supported flow of investment."

The government has forecast up to 4 percent growth in 1998, compared

with 0.4 percent last year. But the central bank has lowered expectations, predicting closer to 1 percent.

"I demand the government makes sure the budget for the current year is realistic," Mr. Yeltsin said. A tax code needed to be approved this year to help increase revenues and the cabinet should prepare a program for saving government money by May, he said.

Finance Minister Mikhail Zadornov said that a presidential veto was a possibility if the Duma rejected the budget changes.

Reaction later was patchy. The Russian markets rose but dealers said they wanted to see real growth rather than appeals for it.

The Communist leader, Gennadi Zyuganov, said, "This is the most lackluster and unimpressive address I have ever heard."

Anatoli Chubais, a first deputy prime minister and one of just a handful of cabinet members Mr. Yeltsin pointedly mentioned by name, said the budget changes were logical because of the financial crisis in Asia.



Two Russian first deputy prime ministers, Anatoli Chubais, left, and Boris Nemtsov, entering a Kremlin hall Tuesday for President Boris Yeltsin's speech.

## BRIEFLY

## Havel's Popularity Hits All-Time Low

**PRAGUE** — The popularity of President Vaclav Havel of the Czech Republic has fallen to an all-time low following the political and economic crisis in the country, an opinion poll indicated Tuesday.

The former dissident playwright has slipped to fourth in a league table of politicians, behind Prime Minister Josef Trosky.

Sixty percent voted for Mr. Havel, the IVVM survey said, putting him behind two leaders of the opposition Social Democrat Party, Petra Buzkova, and Stanislav Gross, with 70 percent and 65 percent respectively, and Mr. Trosky who was most popular with 74 percent. Mr. Havel, 61, is undergoing treatment in a hospital for the removal of a growth from his throat.

## U.K. Lesbian Loses Battle on Sex-Bias

**LUXEMBOURG** — A British lesbian who charged her employer with sex discrimination for denying benefits to gay couples that were available to heterosexuals lost her battle in the European Court of Justice on Tuesday.

Reversing the opinion issued last September by one of its advocate general, the court ruled that South West Trains had not violated any European Union laws by refusing to grant a travel pass to the woman's female partner, Lisa Grant.

Ms. Grant complained that South West Trains granted travel concessions to heterosexual couples in stable relationships, but denied the benefit to gay couples.

## Conviction Upheld Of U.S. Neo-Nazis

**STOCKHOLM** — An appeals court Tuesday upheld the conviction of two American neo-Nazis who had been jailed for violating Sweden's hate laws.

Shawn Sugg of Otter Lake, Michigan, and Eric Dobbs, of San Diego, had been jailed for a month. They were released earlier this month.

## Bosnian Serbs Plead Not Guilty

**THE HAGUE** — Two Bosnian Serbs who surrendered to NATO troops over the weekend pleaded not guilty Tuesday before a United Nations court in the Netherlands to charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Miroslav Tadic, 60, and Milan Simic, 40, are the first Bosnian Serbs to turn themselves over voluntarily to the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia at The Hague (Reuters).

## New U.S. Envoy to NATO Comes Back to a 'Better' Alliance

By Joseph Fitchett  
International Herald Tribune

**PARIS** — NATO changed more radically in the space of three months last year than in its previous 45 years of existence, according to Alexander Vershbow, the new American ambassador to NATO.

This transformation of the alliance, in his view, was a result of the crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina, where the U.S.-led intervention touched off a much broader political and military remodeling of NATO. "The reality is that NATO is less 'new' than 'better,'" he said, meaning that the long-standing trans-Atlantic alliance has been updated and expanded to preserve NATO as the linchpin of European security.

Ideas for modernizing the alliance had been in the air since the end of the Cold War, he said, but it took Bosnia — "the test case from hell," he called it — for the United States, the European allies and Russia to agree on a new lease on life.

Mr. Vershbow is well placed to judge the measure of change. When he left NATO headquarters in 1993 as the No. 2 diplomat in the American mission, Bos-

nia was a mire threatening to swallow Europe's political self-confidence — and the future of trans-Atlantic unity.

Back in Brussels after five years as a foreign-policy maker inside the White House, Mr. Vershbow says he sees Bosnia as a success story, suddenly within reach of a self-sustaining peace.

According to Mr. Vershbow, the allies' agonized decision to intervene militarily to end the Bosnian fighting reminded both the United States and the European allies that they needed each other to preserve stability in Europe and that NATO was the only vehicle for a combined effort.

That renewed commitment to NATO left no other important organization as the basic source of security on the Continent. As a result, Russia and Central European nations found ways to associate themselves with NATO, reversing predictions that the alliance could divide post-Cold War Europe.

Bosnia put its stamp on internal changes in NATO as well, proving that it could function as a multinational force deployed outside alliance territory. The United States has retained an unchanged leadership role thanks to its monopoly on the military sinews

needed for a major operation.

At the same time, the task-force formula now accommodates the European allies' desire for a stronger supporting role — today said largely political, but someday possibly amounting to a more independent military capability.

Mr. Vershbow's upbeat picture of NATO's condition reflects the view from the top of the Clinton administration, in which Mr. Vershbow, 46, was an insider on security policy.

Soft-spoken and informal in a way that makes him "Sandy" to colleagues, he rose fast on the Clinton team to become part of "the Bosnia team," a half-dozen top officials working on the crisis there.

The team learned to apply U.S. power as a big stick in Bosnia and as diplomatic leverage to get allies on board for changes in NATO, and Mr. Vershbow brings that experience to NATO, according to other American officials.

His views seem to accommodate both the special U.S. ties with Europe and acceptance of the idea that the United States has global responsibilities in some situations — like the crisis with Iraq — where most allies can provide little significant help.

In Europe itself, Mr. Vershbow says

he wants NATO to take time to digest its promising changes. He rebuffed suggestions — widespread nowadays in policy and research institutes in Washington — that NATO should seek further changes in the form of a grand trans-Atlantic bargain, usually presented as expanded U.S. troop presence in Europe in exchange for European backing for greater NATO involvement in global crises remote from Europe.

Instead, his concerns focus on the need for European allies to make more of NATO's offer of a stronger role for European members and an opportunity for them to develop their own military and strategic weight.

At the heart of this change was a proposal for Washington to promise to help Europe's own defense organization, the Western European Union, by lending U.S. help if the Europeans wanted to undertake missions on their own.

Getting agreement on it at the NATO summit meeting in Berlin in 1995 was "the hardest thing I ever saw in the council, the only time we were actually screaming at each other," another NATO ambassador said.

Subsequently, little tangible has happened, apparently because Britain, France and Germany are loath to take the political and financial risks of assuming a role of their own.

This reluctance surfaced last year when the Europeans weighed and rejected suggestions of a collective intervention in Albania. The unrest there was a manageable problem, as was quickly shown when an Italian-commanded force including French and Greek troops landed and easily restored order.

"It was a lost opportunity" for European governments to start institutionalizing their commitment to closer defense cooperation, Mr. Vershbow said. European ambassadors at NATO declined to comment publicly, but most acknowledge privately that they were chagrined by their own governments' reluctance to accept the challenge of putting European prestige on the line with a high-profile collective operation.

Even though European leaders sidestepped the occasion to create their own multinational task force — in NATO or outside the alliance using American help — the existence of a European option, even on paper, is an open-ended feature that helped rejuvenate the alliance, Mr. Vershbow said.

## Belgian Inquiry Faults Police in Pedophile Case

Agence France-Presse

**BRUSSELS** — Incompetence, amateurism and negligence all contributed to the Belgian authorities' failure to prevent the abduction, abuse and murder of at least four children, a parliamentary inquiry has concluded.

But the report, released Tuesday though parts of it became public earlier, rejects the widely held belief that Marc Dutroux, the convicted pedophile at the center of the scandal, escaped arrest because he enjoyed the protection of highly placed officials in the police, the judiciary or the political system.

Rather than being the linchpin of a network of pedophiles, Mr. Dutroux is depicted in the report as a predator who had few accomplices and thrived simply because of the failure of the police and magistrates to do their jobs properly.

Mr. Dutroux is awaiting trial for the murder of four girls found dead at his house in 1996. Two of them, eight-year-old Julie Lejeune and Melissa Russo, starved to death after being left for months in a dungeon.

Mr. Dutroux is also charged with the abduction and abuse of two other girls who were found alive at his home and with the murder of a suspected accomplice, Bernard Weinstein.

Although the police repeatedly visited Mr. Dutroux's main residence during inquiries into missing children, they never conducted a thorough search of the property that may have saved Julie and Melissa.

Convicted in 1989 of raping a minor, Mr. Dutroux was released in 1992 after



Paul Marchal, father of a victim, criticized the report as too weak.

serving less than half of a 13-year prison sentence. The release of Mr. Dutroux and the failure to ensure his supervision afterward were severely criticized last year in the first report by the parliamentary commission of inquiry.

Paul Marchal, whose teenage daughter An was one of Mr. Dutroux's victims, had his own criticisms, faulting the commission for not blaming the government. "The traditional parties in power have once again managed to protect themselves," he said.

## Sinn Fein to Challenge Peace Talks Ban

**DUBLIN** — The Irish Republican Army's political arm began seeking a legal injunction Tuesday to block a move to expel it from Northern Irish peace talks.

"We are now seeking a legal intervention as a means of redressing this situation," said the chairman of the Sinn Fein party, Michel McLaughlin.

The party was looking for a judge to rule on whether the British and Irish governments would have the right to ban it from the negotiations. Britain began an effort to eject Sinn Fein on Monday, saying IRA guerrillas were responsible for two murders in Northern Ireland last week.

"If we are ejected in these circumstances, I think opinion within our electorate will be against us coming back to a process that is seen to be fraudulent,"

Mr. McLaughlin said.

Sinn Fein had called an adjournment to the talks to seek legal advice.

"There is no basis for Sinn Fein's exclusion," said Martin McGuinness, the party's chief negotiator. "We have a right to be in those talks and we will resolutely defend that right."

"We are examining legal advice on a range of matters and we are strongly advised that there are legal grounds to challenge the British indictment," he said.

Eight Unionist and Republican parties from the British province were meeting in the Irish capital to try to resolve the dispute over Sinn Fein's continued participation, which has dogged the peace process for more than a week.

The negotiations are part of a three-year drive to end years of tension over

British rule of Northern Ireland.

Before the adjournment, Foreign Minister David Andrews of Ireland conceded the talks were facing "a difficult time." He said Britain and Ireland would listen to the views of the eight Protestant and Catholic parties from Northern Ireland before making a decision about Sinn Fein's participation.

Mo Mowlam, Britain's Northern Ireland secretary, rejected Sinn Fein charges that Britain was treating it unjustly. "This is not a kangaroo court. It is a political process," Ms. Mowlam said.

Under the rules of the talks, no party can take part if it has a guerrilla wing actively engaged in violence.

The IRA says it is still observing a truce it called last July. Sinn Fein says it is a legal party with a democratic mandate and is not involved in violence.

## Freemasons in U.K. Told to Lift Veil of Secrecy

Agence France-Presse

**LONDON** — British Freemasons were in shock Tuesday after the government demanded that all new recruits to the police and judiciary declare publicly their membership in the society — whose very existence is based on secrecy.

A government has never taken such a radical measure in the history of Freemasonry, some experts said. There are an estimated one million Freemasons in Britain.

Home Secretary Jack Straw said the new rules will apply to the police, the probation and prison services, and magistrates, judges and crown prosecutors.

Their names will be put on a register and made public.

Following the rules will be voluntary at first, but the government will consider legislation, if necessary.

Mr. Straw said "membership of secret societies such as Freemasonry can raise suspicions of a lack of impartiality or objectivity. It is therefore important that the public know the facts."

The onus for registering existing members of these professions will rest within Freemasonry itself.

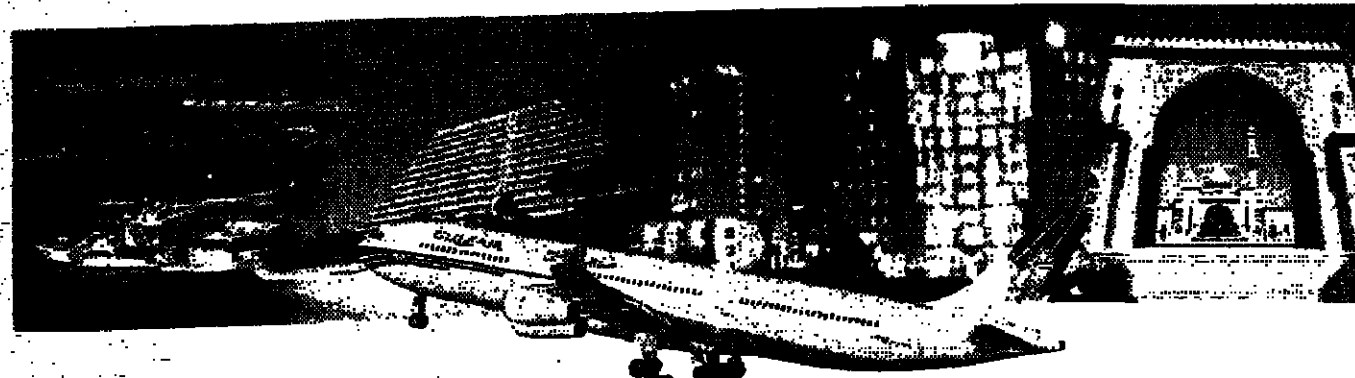
Mr. Straw reportedly triumphed over Lord Irvine, the lord chancellor who is head of the country's judiciary and a

close friend of Prime Minister Tony Blair. Mr. Straw said he would ask the United Grand Lodge of Freemasonry to cooperate with the new rules. A Grand Lodge spokesman said it would make no response till Thursday.

Almost a year ago, the Commons Home Affairs Select Committee recommended that the police, magistrates, judges and crown prosecutors be required to register membership.

Freemasons have often been the target of public speculation because of the secrecy surrounding the organization and reports of bizarre initiation ceremonies. Its Grand Master is the Duke of Kent, cousin of Queen Elizabeth.

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## INTERNATIONAL

African Force  
Masses Near  
Freetown to  
Mop Up Rebels

**The Associated Press**  
FREETOWN, Sierra Leone — Nigerian forces fighting under the banner of a West African intervention force were massing near the capital of Sierra Leone on Tuesday to confront rebel forces from the country's ousted military junta.

"We will continue to expand outside Freetown to try to see where the junta has moved to in the hinterlands," General Timothy Sheldip of Nigeria said in an interview. "Where they refuse to hand over their weapons, we will ensure that they do so by force."

The Nigerian troops launched an offensive last week to drive Lieutenant Colonel Johnny Paul Koroma's military junta from power, clearing the way for the return of President Ahmed Tejan Kabbah.

Colonel Koroma staged a bloody coup that forced Mr. Kabbah out in May.

The Nigerian-led intervention force, known as Ecomog, took control of the capital, Freetown, over the weekend and has been working to restore civil order in the battered city.

"The next step for Ecomog is to ensure that relief materials come to the country," General Sheldip said. "We have all seen life returning to normal in Freetown."

The occupying troops have orders to shoot looters and vigilante gangs on sight. Radio broadcasts, meanwhile, continue to urge civil servants to return to their jobs to help the city restore normal functions.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has appealed for restraint in the city to ward off revenge attacks against former members of Colonel Koroma's junta.

Shortly after the intervention force took over the city, angry mobs attacked and killed a number of junta soldiers. City inhabitants have welcomed the Nigerian troops, cheering and celebrating the end



A boy in a soldier's helmet Tuesday helping out at a Freetown checkpoint run by the Nigerian-led forces. Residents have welcomed the troops.

of Mr. Koroma's harsh military regime. Outside Freetown, remnants of the junta continued to put up some resistance. Some roads into the city remained closed.

The whereabouts of four foreign missionary doctors and a chemist abducted by those forces remained uncertain. Three Spaniards, an Austrian and an Italian were abducted by fleeing junta gunmen over the weekend.

The Spanish Foreign Ministry in Madrid said it believed that the Spaniards were kidnapped because they were doctors and the soldiers were in need of medical assistance.

Others warn that the EU is locking itself into a strait-jacket. Eddie George, the governor of the Bank of England, describes it as a "beauty and the beast" situation. "Beauty is the certainty of exchange rates," he said. "The beast is the single, 'one size fits all' interest rate."

But the European central bank is committed by treaty to maintaining monetary stability. This was the price exacted by Germany, haunted by its memory of prewar runaway inflation and reluctant to give up the mighty Deutsche mark for a "softer" currency.

France, on the other hand, demanded and obtained creation of a euro council that will give governments some say in how the euro zone is run, although with no right to interfere with the independence of the European central bank.

At the end of March, the European Commission will issue a report saying which countries have met the criteria to join the single currency, which include a deficit of less than 3 percent of GDP and a public debt of no more than 60 percent

## SOUTH AFRICA: 'Second Revolution'

Continued from Page 1

society after centuries of domination by South Africa's white minority.

Nigel, as promised, the agenda for change is moving from the constitutional and structural to the economic. The government has introduced a package of affirmative-action legislation that has brought howls of opposition from white political parties and allegations from the South African Institute of Race Relations "that the ruling party is possessed of powerful urges for racial and social engineering."

White leaders from across the political spectrum have made it increasingly clear that they plan to fight tooth and nail to stop efforts they deem to be too drastic, too rapid, a threat to whites' livelihoods or a threat to the country's economic stability.

Cyril Madlala, a black commentator with the South African Sunday Times newspaper, etched the polarization succinctly. "Those privileged under apartheid say the pace is too fast," he wrote this month. "Those who were disadvantaged are losing patience with the slow pace of change."

"We need consensus on this, for I fear patience is not an unlimited commodity. Particularly after a 300-year wait."

Steven Friedman, director of the Center for Policy Studies, said whites by and large still had an aversion to the black government.

"The core dynamic here is the widely held belief by most white people that black people cannot run a country," Mr. Friedman said. He added that the black government's often defensive posture in the face of white criticism "then leads to responses which in some cases make the problem worse." To avoid giving

ground to white criticism, for instance, the government has shown a propensity to form a united front when some within its ranks are accused of mismanagement or corruption, Mr. Friedman said.

Mr. Mandela's government inherited a tangle of disparity that even his former wife, Mrs. Madikizela-Mandela, acknowledged would take decades to unravel. This is a nation in which whites, who are 13 percent of the population, still control the management, capital and direction of the economy. Whites still enjoy benefits and comforts that linger from the days of white-minority rule and the apartheid system of racial separation.

The 1994 all-races election elevated the black majority to political power and set in motion the creation of a small black elite of public servants, private-sector managers and capitalists. But the vast majority of blacks remain economically marginal, still relegated to the worst positions in a society that straddles the Third World and the First.

For instance, while blacks' entry onto the Johannesburg Stock Exchange has been dramatic in recent years, white-owned companies still control 90 percent of the market capitalization. Average black household income is barely one-fourth that of whites, according to a 1997 report by the nation's Central Statistical Service. And joblessness is estimated at about 34 percent and rising, with blacks making up the vast majority of those without formal jobs.

Last year, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki warned that the inequality could lead to racial uprisings if the quality of life of blacks was not sufficiently improved.

These inequalities also could lead to a drop in support for the ANC, which promised more than it has delivered since the election, some commentators say.

## BRIEFLY

Jordan's Cabinet  
Gets a Reshuffle

**AMMAN, Jordan** — Prime Minister Abdul-Salam Majali shuffled his cabinet Tuesday, bringing an Islamic fundamentalist politician into Jordan's government for the first time in seven years.

He brought six new ministers into the 24-member cabinet, mostly seasoned politicians who had held portfolios in earlier governments.

The unexpected newcomer was Bassam Amoush, a former member of the opposition Islamic Action Front, named to the newly created ministry of administrative development. Deputy Prime Minister Jawad Anani took over the Foreign Ministry. (AP)

Report Condemns  
Senegal Violence

**ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast** — Residents in Senegal's violence-wracked Casamance region are victims of worsening human rights abuses, exposed to mutilating torture and random killings, Amnesty International contended Tuesday.

Caught between government soldiers and separatist rebels, Casamance inhabitants face harsh treatment on both sides of the conflict, the London-based human rights group said in a new report.

Casamance, in southern Senegal, has been subject to violence between army troops and the Democratic Forces of Casamance Movement, who hope to establish an independent state. (AP)

Argentine Chief  
Denies Plan to Run

**BUENOS AIRES** — President Carlos Saul Menem says he has no plans to run for office again in 1999 despite comments over the weekend that suggested otherwise.

Mr. Menem, whose standing in popularity polls has hit rock-bottom, said Saturday that he might run in 1999 if the law was changed by popular will.

But in an open letter Monday entitled "Speculation as a beginning, lies as an end," Mr. Menem said he knew of no political or judicial initiatives to get him re-elected and that he had no plans to run. He attributed talk of running again to an "irresponsible tendency to interpret whimsically what I say, to attribute to me intentions I haven't expressed and attitudes that don't pertain to me." (Reuters)

## EURO: In Less Than 3 Months, EU's Project for Monetary Union Will Take a Huge Step From Theory to Reality

Continued from Page 1

summer. "Whoever wants to delay the introduction of the euro must know that this could be a delay forever."

Assuming there are no hitches, therefore, individuals and businesses will be able to start using the euro for check, credit-card and financial transactions next Jan. 1. On that day, the national currencies of the countries involved will effectively cease to exist and will become units of the euro.

At that time also, powerful institutions such as the Bundesbank and the Bank of France will become subsidiaries of the European central bank, which will have the last word on monetary policies such as the fixing of exchange rates with the outside world.

Existing currencies, however, will continue to circulate for three years after that point while governments produce 12 billion banknotes and more than 300,000 tons of coins. Printing, minting, stockpiling and transporting that money will be the biggest operation of its kind in history. Major companies such as Siemens AG of

Germany and Daimler Benz AG have announced that they will switch to the new currency from Day 1, trading seamlessly across the world's largest market and eliminating transaction costs.

A spokesman for the European Commission, the EU's executive body, said pressure from companies was forcing governments to speed their plans to adopt the euro for taxation and official accounting purposes, although they are not required to do so until the introduction of the physical currency in 2002. Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain have already said they will allow use of the euro in place of the national currency as of Jan. 1.

By adopting the euro, countries will be pooling part of their sovereignty. No longer will they be able to juggle exchange rates to gain a competitive advantage. Take the Spanish hotel industry, which has been a relatively low-price destination for tourists from northern Europe. It will not be able to count on a price advantage based on a favorable

exchange rate and could lose out to lower-cost destinations a short distance outside the euro zone such as Turkey, Tunisia or Morocco.

Because the European central bank will set a single interest rate for the region, banks and financial-service providers will face unprecedented competition on a level playing field. If a customer in France decides he can get a cheaper loan from a Finnish bank that has decided to offer lower rates in hope that business volume will make up for a thinner profit margin, there will be nothing to stop him or her.

With no control over monetary policy, governments will have only limited means to deal with mass unemployment or large welfare needs. They will not be able to spend their way out of difficulties, because under a commonly agreed stability pact they will face fines of as much as 0.5 percent of their gross domestic product if they consistently run budget deficits exceeding 3 percent of GDP. The only way they will be able to compete will be to become more efficient and productive.

Others warn that the EU is locking itself into a strait-jacket. Eddie George, the governor of the Bank of England, describes it as a "beauty and the beast" situation. "Beauty is the certainty of exchange rates," he said. "The beast is the single, 'one size fits all' interest rate."

But the European central bank is committed by treaty to maintaining monetary stability. This was the price exacted by Germany, haunted by its memory of prewar runaway inflation and reluctant to give up the mighty Deutsche mark for a "softer" currency.

France, on the other hand, demanded and obtained creation of a euro council that will give governments some say in how the euro zone is run, although with no right to interfere with the independence of the European central bank.

At the end of March, the European Commission will issue a report saying which countries have met the criteria to join the single currency, which include a deficit of less than 3 percent of GDP and a public debt of no more than 60 percent

of GDP. In fact, only Britain, Finland, France and Luxembourg meet the debt criterion, and the judgment will be based on whether the trend in the other countries is headed down toward the 60 percent mark.

The euro's status in the world will depend on whether it is strong or weak. A strong currency will absorb investment and push the dollar down, some analysts say. If the euro is weak, investments will flow out and drive the dollar up.

**Nobel Prize Warns on Policy Divide**  
Franco Modigliani, a Nobel Prize winner for economics and emeritus professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, said Tuesday that European economic and monetary union might not be sustainable because of incompatible policy aims, Reuters reported from London.

Mr. Modigliani said European governments should work together to reduce the region's high unemployment rates. He said raising investment and demand was essential if this was to be achieved.

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## Continues on Page 7

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## THE INTERMARKET

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## BRIEFLY

## Jordan's Cabinet Gets a Reshuffle

AMMAN, Jordan — Prime Minister Abdul-Salam Majali reshuffled his cabinet Tuesday, bringing in a new government for the first time in seven years.

He brought six new ministers to the 24-member cabinet, most of whom are in business and industry, will need to be approved by the parliament.

The unexpected reshuffle came after the government's defeat in the 1997 general election. Bassam Amoush, a former minister of the opposition Islamic Front, moved to the newly created ministry of administrative development. Deputy Prime Minister Amari took over the Foreign Ministry.

## Report Condemns Senegal Violence

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — A report from Senegal's violence-ravaged Casamance region says that abuses, exposed to international scrutiny and random killings, have been committed by government forces and separatist rebels.

The report, from the London-based Human Rights Watch group, says that in the Casamance region, government forces have been violent to civilians and separatist forces have been violent to government forces.

The report also says that the government forces have been violent to civilians and separatist forces have been violent to government forces.

## Argentine Chief Denies Plan to Run

BUENOS AIRES — President Carlos Menem says he has no plans to run for office again in 2000, a move that would allow him to stay in power.

Menem, whose second term ends in 1999, has been a controversial figure in Argentina. He has been accused of corruption and of being involved in the 1994 election.

Menem's denial of a plan to run for office again in 2000 is seen as a move to end his political career.

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## OPINION/LETTERS

## If Clinton Lied, Watch Polls Plummet

By David S. Broder

WASHINGTON — The mail is fascinating these days for the insights it offers into the way the American public is wrestling with the confusing and disturbing information coming out of Washington. You can see why the president's approval scores have been so high — and why he still remains in jeopardy.

For the moment at least, hard-core Democrats accept Hillary Clinton's contention that this is a "right-wing conspiracy."

A woman from Tennessee writes: "I believe from the beginning Paula Jones and Jennifer Flowers were bought and paid for by the Republican Party and the Religious Right."

Both women are liars. Many others, particularly baby boomers and Generation Xers, buy their doubts about President Bill Clinton beneath their deep distaste for self-appointed moral monitors.

They write, as a Cincinnati man did, of the "inquisitor" Kenneth Starr. And they say, in the words of an upstate New York man:

"Consider this. If all the married persons working in any city or county, in Congress, in any large church, TV network, or anywhere else who are playing around with somebody of the opposite sex were fired from their jobs, the unemployment rate would soar."

Half of U.S. marriages end in divorce, with adultery a factor in many of the break-ups. Other marriages are tested by infidelities but survive. The American people may not condone extramarital affairs, but many of them admire couples who work through what Mr. Clinton has referred to as "troubles."

The steadfast support Hillary

Clinton has given her husband has built a powerful shield against public condemnation of the president.

Then there are the factors in the national environment that would work in favor of any president. The economy is strong, crime rates and welfare rolls are down. People sensibly ask: Why upset the apple cart?

The nation has a political and emotional investment in any twice-elected president.

**Adultery may not bother the public, but telling the truth matters.**

He is a known quantity. His accusers are people who popped up from nowhere. Their own actions raise doubts.

They secretly tape each other, negotiate publicly for legal immunity, seek publicity or book contracts.

The press that echoes their charges is itself deeply suspect in many Americans' eyes.

"Do newsmen get pleasure from putting President Clinton through the third degree?" a Wisconsin woman asks. "What power do they have to put him on trial?"

Some social critics say the support for Mr. Clinton reflects a deeply cynical public ready to abandon important values; to trade ethics for a fat paycheck. I don't agree. What we are seeing is the sensible conservatism of people who want to wait for the facts to emerge before they make up their minds.

My mail suggests the ul-

timinate judgment may be harsh. A Floridian writes: "Bill Clinton's problem is reprehensible and possibly illegal behavior. Extramarital sex merely underlies and accentuates the real problem."

And from Washington state: "Personally, I don't give a damn if the president sleeps with sheep. That truly is between him and his wife. But I do care if he uses a star-struck intern for his personal pleasure. I do care if he lies to the American people."

In the latest Washington Post-ABC News poll, those interviewed said by a 53 percent to 34 percent margin that they believe Mr. Clinton had an affair with Monica Lewinsky. But 60 percent said that even if he did it was not important to them, and they even more rejected an affair as a reason for removing President Clinton from office.

More than 8 out of 10, however, said that lying about the affair was more serious. So there is an obvious disconnect. If Mr. Clinton had an affair, his past denials to the public and to Paula Jones'

lawyers are lies. The public, lacking clear proof, has not yet confronted that more serious charge. If proof appears that the president has lied, Mr. Clinton may yet face Richard Nixon's fate.

We should not forget the one positive thing that emerged from the long ordeal of Watergate: the certain knowledge that Americans in the 1970s were as deeply committed to the fundamental idea of the constitution — the rule of law — as the men who wrote the charter in the 1780s.

It took months to puncture the public's desire to think well of a president it had but recently re-elected. But once the facts were clear, Mr. Nixon quickly lost his political and popular support.

The rule of law requires any American to give truthful testimony when sworn as a witness in a legal proceeding. If it turns out that President Clinton has not done that, the props of public opinion now supporting him will collapse. I would bet anything that Americans will once again say no one is above the law.

The Washington Post

## Making Whoopee for the Republic

By Christopher Buckley

WASHINGTON — Governor George W. Bush of Texas announced today that he will seek the Republican nomination in the year 2000, and that he currently maintains "sexual relations with 46 female interns, and not a one of 'em [is] old enough to vote."

Standing before a cheering throng of supporters on the steps of the state capitol building, Mr. Bush announced that he would run on a platform of education, crime and free love.

Steve Forbes interrupted a discussion of tax policy on the Lehrer News-Hour last night to declare that he "routinely engages" in "wild orgies" with members of his political action committee staff.

William Bennett, while promoting his new best-seller, "The Book of Virtues: Great Stories from Aristophanes to Arianna on Creative Degeneracy," said that he was "leaning toward running for president, and as president would name only Sports Illustrated swimsuit models to the Supreme Court."

Jack Kemp told a convention of Baptist ministers today that the reason he fared so poorly during his 1996 debate with Vice President Al Gore was that he had been distracted by a woman "sitting in the front row with

empowerment zones like Mount Sinai."

The former housing secretary said he would decide whether to run in 2000 after consulting with members of his escort service.

Former Vice President Dan Quayle said today that, contrary to his previous statements, he did have an affair with

## MEANWHILE

blonde "lobbyist" Paula Parkinson when he was a senator. "I knew Paula Parkinson," he told USA Today. "She was a friend of mine. And Paula Jones is no Paula Parkinson."

Mr. Quayle said that he would also campaign for "eliminating taxes and withdrawing American troops from Bosnia." An aide later clarified that he meant Bosnia.

Patrick J. Buchanan formally entered the 2000 presidential election today, declaring that he has "done more fornicating in the last month alone than the rest of those weenies [the Republican challengers] have since high school."

Speaking at a crowded topless bar in Manchester, New Hampshire, Mr. Buchanan called for trade barriers,

repeal of the assault weapon ban and subsidies for U.S. condom manufacturers.

Former Governor William Weld threw his hat into the presidential ring today, announcing that he has "had" more than 10,000 women. Mr. Weld, a classics scholar, noted that many of the greatest Roman emperors had died of heart attacks during orgies or from venereal disease, "and just look at the infrastructure they left behind."

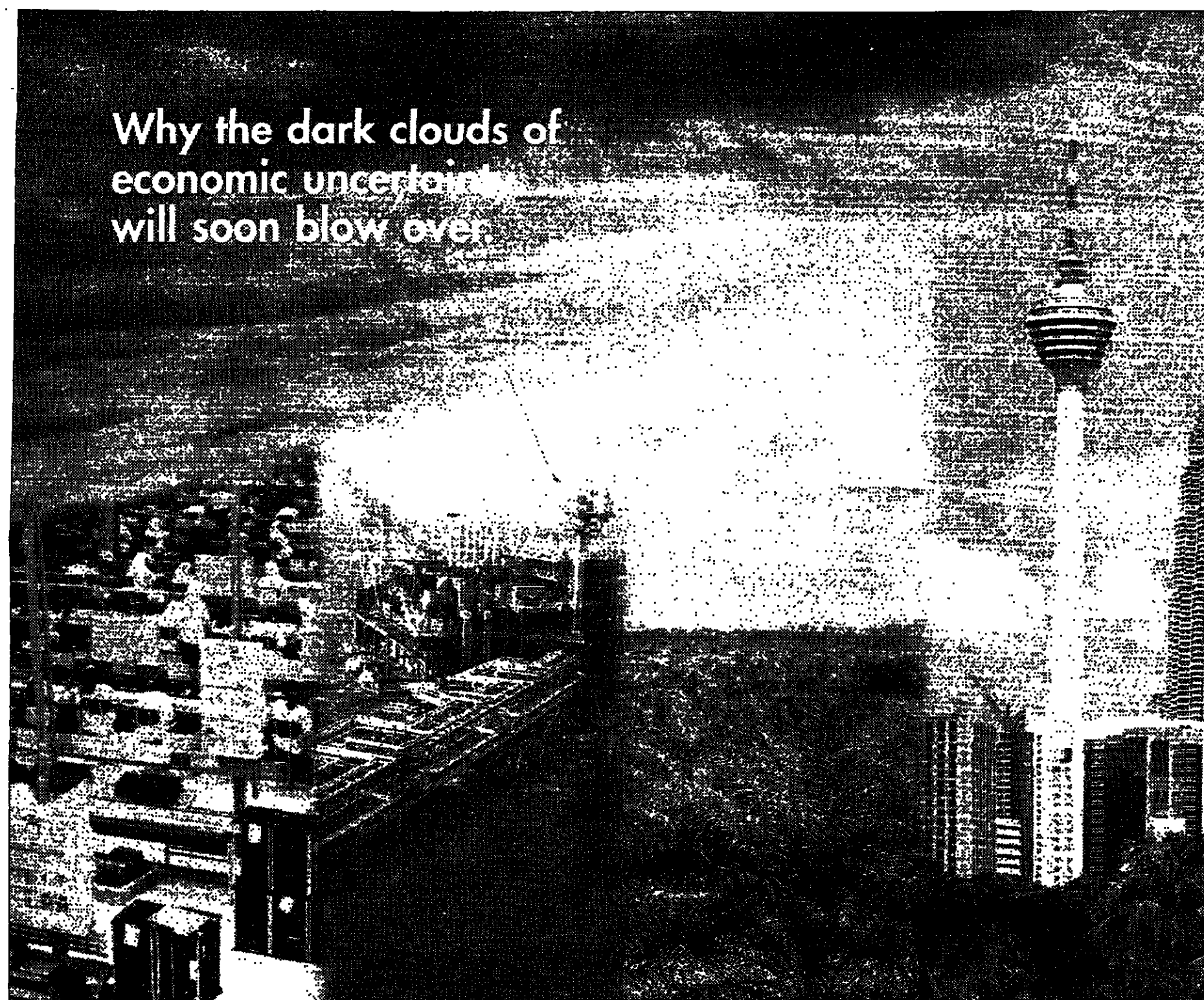
Lamar Alexander and his wife appeared on the program "60 Minutes" last night in an effort to dispel rumors that he was not having an affair with a University of Tennessee sophomore.

In what political watchers say is an indication that he, too, will seek the Republican nomination, the televangelist Pat Robertson said today on his "700 Club" program that he had "gone over the Good Book with a fine-toothed comb, and nowhere does it say that a man can't have a little harmless fun around the office."

Vice President Gore's popularity is reported to be plunging amid mounting Republican charges that he has been faithful to his wife.

The writer, editor of *Forbes* FYI magazine, contributed this comment to *The Washington Post*.

Why the dark clouds of economic uncertainty will soon blow over.



There have been dark clouds hovering over Malaysia lately. One such cloud has cleared... the haze. Yet when we were about to enjoy blue skies again, another dark cloud set in... economic uncertainty.

We Malaysians, however, expect this to clear too. In due time. With an optimism that is borne out of four decades of incredible economic growth the world has been witness to.

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## Destruction

The UN Security Council shut down Iraq's lucrative oil exports. This trade provides a hefty share of Baghdad's revenues. Its reduction would curtail the foreign currency needed to develop new weapons.

At the same time, the Security Council should increase the amount of oil available to the Iraqi population. That would make more food and medicine available to the Iraqi population. Middle East, and it would stop the U.S. from being a "right-wing conspiracy."

Such a strategy would reduce the misery of the Iraqi people. It would also give the U.S. a much greater assurance of success.

The writer, editor of *Forbes* FYI magazine, contributed this comment to *The Washington Post*.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## No Military Action

We firmly believe that military action against Saddam Hussein at this time would be a profound mistake. It should be used only if all else has failed.

There is now a considerable body of evidence, based not least on reports from United Nations agencies and programs working in Iraq, that the current sanctions regime is afflicting the ordinary people of that country far more than the leadership.

As a result, we believe that an agreement should continue to be sought with the Iraqi government that would allow for a phased relaxation of the sanctions currently in force. The people of Iraq should not be asked to suffer any longer.

The UN Security Council should draw up a comprehensive list of everything that remains outstanding in terms of its cease-fire resolution, including details of all the military sites that must be visited on a continuing basis.

As the Iraqi government fulfills the demands on that list, so, on a step-by-step basis, should the sanctions be lifted.

If the Iraqis fail to reach an agreement or to implement one after it has been concluded, the Security Council will need to reconsider its position.

At that time, in our view, a new council resolution will be needed. In such a situation it is vital for the council to work on a basis of consensus — a basis that is clearly not present at the moment.

For a minority of states to take military action in the face of opposition from a great many other United Nations member states, including other permanent members of the Security Council, could prove disastrous and could lead to a wider war in the region, with all that such an eventuality would bring in its wake.

MALCOLM HARPER.  
London.

The writer is national director of the United Nations Association in Britain. The letter was also signed by five other United Nations Association officials.

## Out of Line

Regarding "Ice Dancing Waltzes Into Conflict" (Sports, Feb. 14):

In spite of the fact that she is a brilliant skater, Pasha Grishuk was way out of line when she made a derogatory comment about one of the stars in my film, Katarina Witt.

Miss Witt is not only a magnificent skater, but she brought a lovely quality of vulnerability and beauty to the role, which I do not feel Miss Grishuk ever could have done.

The luckiest thing that has happened to me in filming "Ronin" was that Miss Grishuk was unavailable because of the Olympics and we were fortunate enough to get another two-time Olympic champion, Katarina Witt.

I deeply resent artists in any field saying derogatory things about their colleagues. Miss Grishuk should just take her two medals and retreat silently into the wings.

JOHN FRANKENHEIMER.  
La Plaine Saint Denis, France.

## Helping Indonesia

Regarding "To Liberalize, Indonesia Has to Reform the State" (Opinion, Jan. 27) by Hilton L. Root:

The article reported that the family of Indonesia's President Suharto has built a business empire worth an estimated \$40 billion.

The International Monetary Fund-led bailout package amounts to \$43 billion.

There seems to be a more obvious way to solve Indonesia's current financial problems.

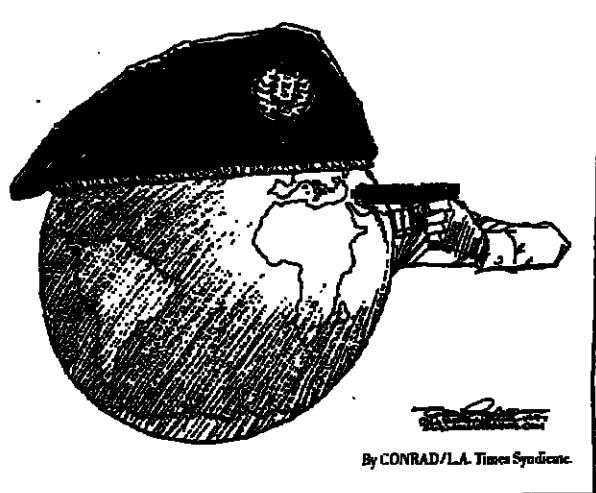
KLAUS RIEBESEHL.  
Petaling Jaya, Malaysia.

## Golfing Matters

Regarding "No Carts on the Course if Golf Is for Athletes" (Meanwhile, Feb. 4) by Tom Kite:

If Mr. Kite thinks that professional golf is only for athletes, why do he and other professional golfers not carry their own bags? Why do caddies select clubs and hand them to the golfers?

TOM JEWISS.  
Barcelona.



By CONRAD/L.A. Times Syndicate

## Worry Everyone

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# A Wayward 'Tristan and Isolde': What Does It Mean?

By David Stevens  
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Wagner's "Tristan and Isolde" is perhaps the prime example of a music drama in which all the drama is in the music, and the least one can ask of the stage presentation is that it not make too many irrelevant claims on the public's attention.

In that respect, the new Paris Opera production takes the wrong turn at almost every intersection. To have a visible shepherd pretending to play a weird pipe while the real

English horn sounds from offstage is fatuous enough, but when the stage shepherd stops pretending and sound keeps coming, what does it mean?

The all-purpose contemporary costumes range from vaguely chic pantsuits for Isolde and Brangäne to a comic valet getup for Kurwenal to ordinary street clothes for King Marke.

In Stein Winge's production, no effort is made to have Marke look like an old man, so there he is — René Pape — tall, good looking, young and with a marvelously expressive bass voice, and we are asked to believe that Isolde is turning her back on life at court with this person. It is hard to

believe that any magic potion would be that potent, least of all one from the richly colored test tubes in Brangäne's collection.

Lennart Mork's set for the first act was a huge frame that might have been the ribs of a sea-going vessel, with a bridge-like tower for Tristan. In the second act this was turned upside down, providing a kind of stylized garden for the enraptured couple to have their tryst, all the while wrestling with a huge colored, wind-blown drape that they finally succeed in wrapping around themselves.

The third act seemed to take place in an abandoned junkyard, full of rocks and modern

metallic discards, including a thetmos jug for Kurwenal.

Meanwhile, James Conlon and his splendid orchestra played through this with great attention to detail, a fluid, forward-driving sense of Wagnerian movement, and seemingly fine indifference to the goings-on above them.

The cast ranged from superb to passable, but most of the excellence was concentrated in the lower end of the scale.

Aside from Pape's nobly resonant Marke, Monte Pederson was a Kurwenal of barely contained vehemence, and Jane Henschel as Brangäne displayed a powerful mezzo that some-

times sacrificed control to volume. Carol Yahr, who stepped into this production late as Isolde, was visually convincing as a girlish Irish princess, and vocally, convincing too as long as she did not press too hard for dramatic effect. Her Liebestod showed that she knows how to save her best for last.

Her Tristan, Wolfgang Schmidt, was sturdy but pedestrian, a tenor with unflagging but unvaried and uninteresting tonal quality. Unfairly, though predictably, he was the designated victim of the Bastille boos. Stephen Salters as Melot and Scot Weir, doubling as shepherd and seaman, made strong contributions.

## Bulgakov's 'Flight' Of White Russians A Play Fit for the National

By Sheridan Morley  
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — One of the requirements, indeed designations, of a national theater that is not to disintegrate into a museum, as have so many elsewhere in Europe, is surely that it introduce us to major and sometimes epic work that no other stage in the land could afford or consider.

The jury is still out on the new Trevor Nunn regime on the South Bank; neither his new "Enemy of the People" nor "Peter Pan" are exactly redemptive, and the announcements of a forthcoming "Oklahoma" for the summer and a "Private Lives" to celebrate the Coward centennial next year, when there are around 50 other plays of his infinitely more ambitious and largely unstageable elsewhere, is frankly more than a little depressing in its weary, play-safe familiarity.

But we do have, on the open Olivier stage, Mikhail Bulgakov's "Flight" and this at least is precisely what the National Theatre should be doing. Written in 1926 by the great Russian author of "The Master and Margarita," this one was all too predictably banned by Stalin and only resurfaced long after the author's death in 1940. Essentially it's an epic black comedy in eight episodes, through which we follow a group of White Russians on the run from the 1917 civil war but still dreaming of a return to the homeland just before Len-

in ruled that yet another impossibility. Other playwrights and screenwriters have had their fun with White Russians in exile, not least during the Broadway and Hollywood '30s of "Ninotchka" and "Tovarich," but Bulgakov's play has the courage of a vast odyssey. We follow these no-hopers through Constantinople and into Paris as, increasingly desperate, they take up crime and cockroach-racing and gambling in an attempt to restore lost family fortunes.

Alan Howard, in magnificent lassitude, heads the troupe of losers on the run, and in Howard Davies's superbly spectacular production the new Ron Hutchinson translation crackles with energy. Hopelessly underpowered, ill and wildly impractical, this gypsy band drifts across the democratic world trying to find lost identities, a living, or maybe just some distant relative to offer them bed and board until the next revolution, the one that never came.

Bulgakov's genius was to tell a civil war story of death and horror with an amazing amount of bleak and black humor; just as we start to feel sorry for these exiles, we are shown how utterly hopeless they will always be at rebuilding any kind of a life. This is a pageant of retreat, about people who wander and just cannot deal with wanderlust; it's the kind of circus only the National can and should be doing.

At his Lyric Hammersmith, Neil Bartlett has, unusually for a young fringe director, shown a real if unfash-



Left, Paul Shelley and Fiona Ramsay in "Macbeth"; Laurence Mitchell and Amanda Harris in "Cause Célèbre."

ionable interest in the Shaftesbury Avenue past, plays of snobbery-with-violence such as Maugham's "The Letter," a couple of years ago and now Terence Rattigan's last play, "Cause Célèbre," completed only weeks before his death in 1977.

Given our passion for vintage murder trials, it is not surprising that other playwrights, notably Simon Gray in "Death of a Teddy Bear," should have had a go at the Alma Rattenbury murder trial that so obsessed the tabloids in 1935. The case had just about everything: glamorous if alcoholic older woman hires likely young lad as chauffeur, and together they end up killing her querulous and inconvenient but rich old husband. The case

comes to trial, Rattenbury gets off and duly commits suicide; boy is sentenced to hang but reprieved by public demand as innocent lad misled. He lives now in tranquil Bournemouth retirement, well into his 80s.

Rattigan's genius was to see in this well-known trial a whole case history of prewar British social and sexual repression, precisely the area that had most concerned him in such earlier and better plays as "Separate Tables," and Bartlett has done him proud, cross-cutting court scenes with the events at the Villa Madeira and even paralleling Rattenbury with one of her jurors, also in danger of losing a beloved teenage boy. Neil Stacy and Terry Taplin lead court scenes of nail-biting suspense,

while Amanda Harris and Laurence Mitchell are equally well-matched as the killers. There is no better revival of a British play anywhere in London.

We underestimate Sam Walters at our peril. Only Dan Crawford at the ever-imperiled King's Head in Islington has a longer record of running a pub theater, although since Walters's Orange Tree has now moved across the road it is technically a theater next to a pub rather than inside one.

In the almost 30 years since he founded the Orange Tree, I can only recall one Shakespeare there, which makes the "Macbeth" that opened this week all the more intriguing. It has a cast of only 10, and is played on a stage with virtually no props or identifiable costumes;

there is no precise period here, and precious few Scots accents.

Indeed Walters's production starts alarmingly neutrally. But then, in the second half, it suddenly gets fascinating, the notoriously difficult "England" scene, always the hardest in the play to sustain audience interest, becomes here an electrifying political and moral debate, and immediately afterward, Paul Shelley's hitherto only serviceable Macbeth starts to tear up the planking of the stage like some manic Noah bent on sinking his own ark. The subsequent battle scenes are played Kabuki-style, and the last becomes a center of tension and surprise that suddenly lifts, almost too late, a low-key revival into something mesmeric and magnificent.

## BOOKS

### RADCLIFFE HALL: A Woman Called John

By Sally Cline. 434 pages. \$32.50. Overlook Press.

Reviewed by Jeannine DeLombard

DESPITE the title of her best-known book, "The Well of Loneliness," Radclyffe Hall's most vexing problem was not solitude but society. At least this is the impression one gets from reading Sally Cline's carefully researched biography of Hall, arguably the early 20th century's most famous lesbian.

Like a sculptor creating a likeness out of a block of marble, Cline chips away at Hall's turbulent friendships, family relationships and romances to expose the contours of the complicated personality at their center. That this study remains a portrait of Hall's stony exterior, ultimately offering little insight into her thoughts and emotions, is perhaps due to the fact that, with the exception of a voluminous correspondence at the end of her life, Hall left very little in the way

of autobiographical writings, forcing Cline to draw primarily on the diaries and memoirs of Hall's three most important lovers and, more problematically, Hall's fiction. Hall's lifelong experience of stormy personal relationships began, not surprisingly, in her immediate family, composed of an absentee father from the fringes of British aristocracy and an abusive, exploitative American mother. Born in Bournemouth, England, in 1880, Marguerite Radclyffe Hall lived the pained, mediative existence that seems to characterize the early lives of so many writers. The death of Hall's irresponsible, dissolute father when she was 18 left her with enough money to pursue her literary interests without the need for more mundane employment; it also allowed her to escape from her mother's new husband, whom Cline suggests may have molested his stepdaughter.

Cline would have been well advised to abandon her plodding chronological approach and open her study with one of the more sensational moments in Hall's

tempestuous life — the obscenity trials over "The Well of Loneliness," for example, or one of her tragic love triangles — working in the dull details of Hall's ancestry and childhood where necessary. As it is, Cline's dutiful excavation of this information not only risks driving away readers; it also leads her to rely overmuch on Hall's fiction for psychological insight, which in turn leads to oversimplification.

The adult Hall — or John, as she was known socially — is more interesting, if not more accessible, than the young Marguerite. Those familiar with Radclyffe Hall through photographs of her in austere middle age, sporting tailored tweeds, slicked-back hair, and a tie, may be surprised to find that, although she enjoyed both female lovers and what was then perceived as masculine dress, Hall was a political conservative and a devout Catholic who were only skirts in public through the 1920s and did not cut her knee-length blond hair until she was almost 40 years old.

Hall's identity as a poet and a lesbian emerged during her long relationship with Mabel (Lady) Batten, a celebrated mezzo-soprano, composer, grandmother and the former lover of King Edward VII. The relationship ended tragically with Lady's death, which occurred while Hall was romping around the English countryside with her new lover (and Lady's young, married cousin), Una Troubridge.

Over the next 28 years, Troubridge became the classic literary wife, subordinating her own career and ambitions to that of her beloved, searching out conducive writing en-

vironments, shielding Hall from family and friends during periods of intense creativity, neglecting her own daughter, and finding titles for many of Hall's novels. Troubridge celebrated with Hall over the critical success of her 1926 novel "Adam's Breed" and supported her through the grueling obscenity trials that prohibited the publication in England of "The Well of Loneliness." Troubridge even tolerated Hall's torrid nine-year affair with her 28-year-old White Russian nurse, Evguenia Souline, which continued until Hall's death of cancer in 1943.

HALL's passionate correspondence with Souline offers the most sustained glimpse of the inner workings of the lesbian icon's mind. It is not, however, an attractive one: In her twice-daily letters to the young Russian refugee, Hall ceaselessly tries to bully and baby-talk her lover into passivity and dependence. (In one letter, a stern Hall punishes Souline for her decision to enroll in a typing and shorthand course at Oxford by cutting by £5 her monthly "allowance" — which Souline appears to have accepted only reluctantly in the first place.) The image that emerges from these letters, as from the biography itself, is of an insecure, domineering woman determined to master the complicated female relationships which, at least as much as her writing, defined and structured her life.

Jeannine DeLombard, whose essays and short fiction have appeared in "Dyke Life: A Celebration of the Lesbian Experience" and "Best Lesbian Erotica 1997," wrote this for The Washington Post.

## Rare Compassion for 'Falstaff' And a Thunderous Ovation for Abbado in Berlin

By Paul Moor  
International Herald Tribune

BERLIN — On opening night of Jonathan Miller's production of Verdi's "Falstaff" at the Staatsoper, its conductor, Claudio Abbado, got an ovation he will not soon forget from an audience obviously regretful to see him go.

Shortly before the performance, he had dropped a bombshell, offhandedly mentioning in a tabloid interview his intention not to extend his contract as conductor of the Berlin Philharmonic beyond the year 2002 — ostensibly to have more time for "reading, sailing and skiing."

His debut appearance conducting at the Staatsoper provided Berliners their first opportunity to express their affection and show how they feel about that. Musicians worldwide tend to rate the Berlin Philharmonic the world's best, making its conductorship the ultimate accolade. Abbado's predecessor, Herbert von Karajan, had a lifetime contract; before him, the legendary Wilhelm Furtwängler died in office.

The Abbado era has brought Berlin the benefit of exceptionally rich cross-pollination: Abbado's band frequently welcomes the Staatsoper's music director, Daniel Barenboim, as guest con-

ductor, and Barenboim's friendly reciprocation has brought us a "Falstaff" worthy of any opera house anywhere.

Miller's psychological concept departs strikingly from the customary view of this genial miracle (Verdi composed it at 80) as a leering Anglo-Italian variation on French bedroom farce. This Falstaff, in fact, evokes Shylock's "If you prick us, do we not bleed?" The fat, famous old goat's eventual humiliation and degradation make him more a figure of compassion than fun. The merry wives' malicious conspiracy derives more from unconventional realism than from comic ribaldry.

Opening night began with a disheartening announcement: Ruggero Raimondi, eagerly anticipated as Falstaff, would save the premiere in spite of severe indisposition. For a man indisposed, he came through with a remarkable performance, vocally as well as dramatically.

He had superlative support: Dorothea Roeschmann (visually and vocally ravishing as Nanetta), Marijana Lipovsek (Dame Quickly, more restrained than customary), Soile Isokoski (Alice), Lucio Gallo (Ford), Marcelo Alvarez (Fenton, dramatically a bit pallid), with Panza-like Anthony Mee and the towering Andrea Silvestrelli a Mutt and Jeff version of Bardolffo and Pistola.

Herbert Kapplmüller's sets rang changes on M.C. Escher's perspective trickery, pushing much of the action almost into the orchestra pit. Clare Mitchell's costumes reached their pinnacle in the randy old popinjay's tatterdemalion but still cocky finery when he struts out a-courting.

By post-performance consensus, the orchestra (known during its concert series as the Berliner Staatskapelle) played as rarely before, with transparency and pinpoint accuracy recalling what Toscanini got out of his super-virtuoso NBC Symphony. The players got a thoroughly deserved ovation when they appeared, in full force, for their curtain call.

BUT the most thunderous ovation of all went to Abbado, movingly showing him how much his Berlin fans hate to lose him. Now starts the customary international conductors' game of musical chairs. Abbado's stewardship has substantially reduced the average age of the Philharmonic. Names of appositely younger conductors banded about and already in good standing with those finicky men and women who choose their boss: Metzner, Nagano, Papano, Rattle, Salonen, Thielemann and Welser-Moest.

## BEST SELLERS

The New York Times		
This list is based on reports from more than 2,000 bookstores throughout the United States. Weeks on list are not necessarily consecutive.		
FICTION		
1 PARADISE, by Toni Morrison	1	3
2 COLD MOUNTAIN, by Charles Frazier	2	32
3 FEAR NOTHING, by Dean Koontz	3	3
4 A CERTAIN JUSTICE, by P.D. James	4	10
5 THE WINNER, by David Baldacci	5	9
6 THE INVESTIGATORS, by L.E. Gold	6	9
7 MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA, by Armin Greder	7	13
8 CUBA LIBRE, by Elmore Leonard	8	13
9 SHARP EDGES, by Joyce Kilmer	9	12
10 THE GOD OF SMALL THINGS, by Armin Greder	10	9
11 BLACK AND BLUE, by James Van Praeger	11	27
12 THEN COME HEAVEN, by P.D. James	12	6
13 THE MASTERHARPER OF PERIN, by Anne McCaffrey	13	15
14 CAT & MOUSE, by James Patterson	14	13
15 THE PHANTOM, by Danielle Steel	15	13
NONFICTION		
1 TALKING TO HEAVEN, by James Van Praeger	1	6
2 THE MILLIONAIRE NEXT DOOR, by Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko	2	56
3 ANGELA'S ASHES, by Frank McCourt	3	74
4 MIDWINTER IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL, by John Berendt	4	187
5 TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE, by Mitch Albom	5	17
6 THE PERFECT STORM, by Sebastian Junger	6	26
7 THE MAN WHO LISTENS TO HORSES, by M. Scott Brown	7	26
8 INTO THE AIR, by Jon Krakauer	8	41
9 CITIZEN SOLDIERS, by Stephen E. Ambrose	9	13
10 CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD: Book 1, by Neale Donald Walsch	10	61
11 THE RAPE OF NANKING, by Iris Chang	11	4
12 JAMES CAMERON'S TITANIC, by Ed W. March	12	2
13 BITTER HARVEST, by Ann Rabe	13	2
14 TITANIC: Legacy of the World's Greatest Ocean Liner, by Susan Wells	14	2
15 PILLAR OF FIRE, by Taylor Branch	15	2
ADVICE, HOW-TO AND MISCELLANEOUS		
1 SIMPLE ABUNDANCE, by Sarah Ben Branson	1	97
2 DON'T WORRY, MAKE MONEY, by Richard Carlson	2	8
3 MEN ARE FROM MARS, WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS, by John Gray	3	224
4 MAKE THE CONNECTION, by Bob Greene and Oprah Winfrey	4	33

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## CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

- Commercial
- Bar-ring
- Goal carrier
- Uninviting to a
- Composer
- Kind of mechanic
- Saying of Benjamin Franklin, part 1
- Red, to a motorist
- Big house
- Oktoberfest
- Butyran's tool
- Fuel gas
- Like some pay rates
- Chimney
- Indian state
- One who does the lord's work
- Tag info
- Saying, part 2
- One named Nigaman singer
- Smooth-talking
- Homologous
- Heirs, often
- They feature Franklin
- Quoting the raven?
- Calendar square
- In a breezy way
- Polish off
- Novelist Haley
- End of the saying
- More than one way to skin
- "Well, — that special"
- Encircle
- Just say no
- "One-Lama" poet
- Florida citrus

**DOWN**

- "Lucky Jim" author
- Nimble
- It may be held in
- Resting on
- Big Apple sch.
- World-weary
- Superboy's girlfriend
- Cover girl Carol
- Say one, in slang
- "Hike!"
- Quarrel
- Observe Yom Kippur
- Cuts (down)
- Like candles
- Will-wap connection
- Soprano Gluck
- N.F.L. Hall-of-Famer
- Boxer and sailor
- Org. concerned with working conditions
- Pre-owned
- Pan's opposite
- Has a nunch
- Plaintiff's action
- Rectal performance
- Monogram part
- Abbr.
- Quarterback
- Spuds' buds
- Bughouse
- More than a few
- Rural sight
- Either of two birds
- Roman statesmen
- Odessey's enclaves
- Indo-European
- Like Oscar Wilde
- Vader of "Star Wars"
- Slightly
- Fish-eating birds
- "Hold on —!"
- Linda
- Call
- Biographer Ludwig
- "Warrior Princess" of TV
- Spanish she-bear
- Reporter's question

**Solution to Puzzle of Feb. 17**

ROME	QUADS	SCAM
ALEX	UNIDID	PETE
WINT	ABACI	OLDS
SOUTH	FORK	COLAS
VEAST	STRECON	OMY
ALLUS	STRE	RADS
MALL	PRADO	TRUL
SLAV	AER	TASTES
ERRANT	WHILL	
GNARLED	USO	
LOEWS	JACKKNIFE	
OLGA	TULSA	ADIN
JOIR	ASPOIT	DOJO
ESSE	STONE	ALITS

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## INTERNATIONAL

## U.S. Is Now Targeting Iraqi's Network of Internal Control

By Barton Gellman  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — As President Bill Clinton and his top advisers embark on what amounts to a marketing campaign for airstrikes on Iraq, the trend in their evolving war plan goes well beyond the emphasis in public on damaging prohibited weapons programs, say participants in the continuing internal debate.

Defense and foreign policy officials said the president's national security team remains divided over the aims and expectations of the intended bombardment and frustrated senior officials said the target lists accumulating in the converted Bedouin village of Eski in Saudi Arabia, the U.S. Central Command's forward air headquarters, are still subject to daily revision.

But as bombing plans have expanded to encompass what one senior flag officer described as "thousands of aim points" in Iraq, a large share of the intended

violence is now directed at the apparatus maintaining President Saddam Hussein in power, from networks of secret police to Ba'ath Party organs. Apart from the longshot hope of a change of government, officials said, the aim is to crush Mr. Saddam's defiance by threatening his most valued assets of internal control.

The administration does not wish to advertise this intention, according to several accounts, because it fears the plan may not work. "In our public discourse of this we need to focus on an achievable objective," a senior administration official said.

But President Clinton's stated intention — to damage forbidden weapons stocks from the air, rather than compel Iraq to give full access to United Nations inspectors charged with discovering them on the ground — has been challenged by some in Congress and elsewhere as too limited. When critics in and out of government noted that Iraq could quickly reconstitute its biological and

chemical weapons programs, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said last week that "We reserve the right for a follow-up strike."

There is broad dissatisfaction with that strategy in the military establishment, several senior officials said. "We pay such a huge price politically that we have fewer friends next time and even fewer the time after that," a military planner said. "Every six months doing maintenance strikes on Iraq for the next 10 years doesn't seem to be good foreign policy or military strategy."

General Anthony Zinni, chief of the U.S. Central Command, telegraphed an alternative in comments to traveling defense reporters last week. Asked what he had meant in a previous statement, when he spoke of targeting "what Saddam holds dear," he listed first among the intended targets the Iraqi president's apparatus of internal control.

"I think the things that obviously allow him to stay in power, threaten his

neighbors, threaten the use of weapons of mass destruction — the things that are involved in the control of those sorts of assets, and those are the kind of things I feel he holds dear," he said.

The Gulf War in 1991 featured a similar but largely abortive effort to target Mr. Saddam's power base. But the objectives of that war's six-week air campaign were largely elsewhere, and target planners then devoted less than 1 percent of their bombing missions — 260 of 36,046 "strike sorties" — to the category they designated "I-1" for leadership.

This time there will be far fewer bombing runs in all — probably less than 400 a day, several senior officers estimated.

But with the war plans lasting at least several days, senior generals said, American and British planes could drop more precision-guided weapons this time than they did seven years ago on what one officer called Mr. Saddam's "apparatus of repression."

"The emphasis is not just on chemical and biological weapons, a top flag officer said. "The emphasis is on 'You're going to make it hurt,' and the best way to hurt him is his core infrastructure. We're not going to leave that alone as we have in the past."

"If he feels threatened enough with his regime stability, then he has no choice but to acquiesce. It's typical dictator mentality that the biggest thing that drives him is holding onto power."

Leadership targets in the 1991 war were concentrated largely in downtown Baghdad.

But the intervening seven years, defense and intelligence officials said, have revealed a good deal more about Mr. Saddam's mechanisms of control, including regional centers of the secret police and the Special Security Orga-

## Bahrain Bars Sorties

The Associated Press

MANAMA, Bahrain — Bahrain said Tuesday that it would not allow U.S. warplanes based on the island to take part in any attack against Iraq.

Bahrain, site of the headquarters of the U.S. 5th Fleet, joined neighboring Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates in prohibiting use of the U.S. bases on their territory for any attack against Iraq.

There are 36 U.S. warplanes, including F-15 and F-16 strike fighters, based in Bahrain.

"Bahrain believes that it is necessary to redouble the political efforts," Information Minister Mohammed Mutawa was quoted as saying, for the United Nations and Iraq "to reach a peaceful solution."

nization run by his younger son, Qusay.

Among the new sources of information have been thousands of reconnaissance flights in support of UN inspectors and the windfall brought by the 1995 defection to Jordan of Hussein Kamel Hassan, a top lieutenant and son-in-law of Mr. Saddam.

The Clinton administration has struggled for nearly four months to harness military force to the broad U.S. interest in blocking Iraq's development of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons and the missiles to deliver them.

Members of interagency working groups said they considered and rejected plans ranging from insertion of ground troops for "inspections by force" to an escalating sequence of bombardment and ultimatum.

In a meeting in November of the cabinet-rank national security team, shortly after Iraq expelled all Americans on the UN inspection teams, Mrs. Albright solicited a debate on whether the administration should shift its emphasis from containment of the Baghdad government to its replacement.

One cabinet official said that was "clearly one of the most difficult questions" the administration faced, but according to accounts from the meeting, the national security adviser, Samuel Berger, and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Henry Shelton, rejected the idea at once, saying that it was beyond the means of any but the largest military intervention, with U.S. ground troops.

When a diplomatic solution brokered by Russia gave way to renewed impasse with the UN inspection teams last month, several officials said the Clinton administration began to threaten the use of military force before fully thinking through what force might be used.

"The idea we had was that diplomacy plus the threat of force would coerce him to allow the inspectors to return and do their jobs," said one official. "It may not or it may not."

The administration's bid for political support, which focused last week on private briefings for members of Congress, goes to the public Tuesday with a speech by Mr. Clinton at the Pentagon intended for live telecast.

On Wednesday, his three senior advisers — Mrs. Albright, Mr. Berger and Defense Secretary William Cohen — will lead a "town meeting" or public debate at Ohio State University.

Unlimited access for UN inspectors — "unfettered and unconditional," in Mrs. Albright's mantra — became the centerpiece of the administration's public diplomacy. Asked about the purpose of military force, she said flatly on Jan. 28 that it was to coerce a change of behavior by Mr. Saddam, but she and others dropped that formulation soon after.

Defense officials warned in the internal debate that they could not undertake to destroy the bulk of Iraqi chemical and biological weapons because they do not know where many of them are hidden and they can be so easily rebuilt, participants said.

## France Urges Visit by Annan After Warning Iraqi Official

By Craig R. Whitney  
New York Times Service

PARIS — Insisting Tuesday that the United Nations secretary-general, Kofi Annan, should be allowed one last chance to find a diplomatic solution with a trip to Baghdad, France also supported U.S. threats to bomb Iraq if Saddam Hussein refuses to allow UN weapons inspectors access to "presidential sites."

"Time is running out," President Jacques Chirac warned the Iraqi foreign minister, Mohammed Said Sabah, during a one-hour meeting in Paris, according to a French statement that said the country demanded that Iraq comply "strictly" with all UN Security Council resolutions.

Mr. Chirac, the statement said, "emphasized the extremely serious risks which would result from an Iraqi refusal to accept inspection of the 'presidential sites,'" and called on Iraq to make "further moves" to permit a diplomatic solution to the impasse.

"France considers that the search for a diplomatic solution now requires a visit to Baghdad this week on the part of the United Nations secretary-general," the statement continued. "France deems that the negotiation paths will not have been exhausted as long as Mr. Kofi Annan has not made such a visit."

Mr. Chirac's spokeswoman, Catherine Colonna, said he had telephoned President Boris Yeltsin of Russia, Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain and the leaders of Spain and Italy to tell them he believed a diplomatic solution was still possible if Iraq relented, Reuters reported. Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Chirac agreed in the phone conversation to continue joint efforts to avert the use of force, the Kremlin said in a statement.

Mr. Sabah said after meeting Mr. Chirac that Iraq would deal "positively" with any ideas for a solution that Mr. Annan brought with him to Baghdad. The secretary-general is expected to go to Baghdad if all five permanent members of the Security Council — the United States, France, China, Russia and Britain — approve his trip.

Mr. Annan is scheduled to visit Paris on Wednesday but will not be seeing Mr. Sabah here, as was earlier thought possible, since the Iraqi foreign minister left after his talks Tuesday. He also met with Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine who, diplomats said, reinforced Mr. Chirac's warning.

The French statement, like earlier ones, made it clear that France would much prefer a peaceful solution, and officials made it clear that France, which joined in the American-led war to expel Iraq from Kuwait in 1991, would stay on the sidelines if the bombs start falling again.

Interior Minister Jean-Pierre Chevènement, who resigned in protest as defense minister in 1991 because of French support for the war, said that keeping clear would ensure that France did not become the target of terrorist attacks by Islamic fundamentalists in retaliation for military action against Iraq.

"I mustn't lose sight of the danger of fundamentalist Islamic attacks," he said.

Algerian fundamentalists carried out a score of terrorist bombings in Paris and elsewhere in 1995 and 1996 in an unsuccessful campaign to force France to break with the Algerian government in a struggle with Islamic militants that has taken an estimated total of 70,000 lives.

Western diplomats here say that France's position on the tough American position in the current showdown with Iraq has left the White House feeling less than fully satisfied. Mr. Chirac has repeatedly expressed opposition to reliance on economic sanctions to force Iraq to comply with UN resolutions, saying that sanctions hurt only the civilian population, not President Saddam.

France was Iraq's largest western trade partner before the 1991 war and Mr. Chirac also has personal ties with Mr. Saddam that go back to a 1975 visit by the Iraqi leader. "You are my personal friend," Mr. Chirac told him then. "You are assured of my respect, my consideration and my affection."

At the time, France was trying to woo Iraq away from its main arms supplier, the Soviet Union and was willing to sell Baghdad billions of dollars worth of Mirage fighter-bombers, anti-aircraft batteries and a nuclear reactor



Palestinian police diverting supporters of Saddam Hussein of Iraq as they marched Tuesday in Bethlehem.

## Congress Declares a Long-Term War on Saddam

By Eric Schmitt  
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Before the first bomb is dropped on Iraq, congressional leaders are telling the Clinton administration what it should do after that.

If diplomacy fails to resolve the crisis in Iraq, the administration says, its strategy is not to topple President Saddam Hussein but to contain him and his elusive chemical and biological arsenal.

But a Republican-dominated chorus in Congress and in foreign-policy circles is demanding a long-term strategy to oust Mr. Saddam.

"Air attacks will do limited damage," said Senator John McCain, Republican of Arizona and a member of the Armed Services Committee. "But following that, there has to be this effort to destabilize and overthrow him. Otherwise we'll end up in the same situation a year or two years or three years from now."

Few if any lawmakers are even hinting at a replay of the Gulf ground war in 1991 to settle things. Said Senator Dan Coats, Republican of Indiana and another committee member: "There are alternatives other than simply sending hundreds of thousands of ground troops into Baghdad."

Such Republicans as the House speaker, Representative Newt Gingrich of Georgia, and such Democrats as Senator Carl Levin of Michigan tick off a do-list for President Bill Clinton and his national security lieutenants.

The options include enlarging the existing no-flight and no-drive zones in Iraq, tightening the economic

embargo, disbursing the billions of Iraqi assets frozen after the 1990 invasion of Kuwait to opposition groups, including a government in exile, and setting up a "Radio Free Iraq" to stir public opposition.

"The doctrine here has to be roll back, not containment," the Senate majority leader, Trent Lott of Mississippi, said on the Senate floor last week.

Not that the administration is closed to new ideas. The national security adviser, Samuel Berger, met for more than an hour at the White House last week with a dozen national security experts, including a former Defense Department undersecretary, Paul Wolfowitz, and former director of central intelligence, James Woolsey.

"Getting rid of Saddam is not a fairy tale," said Mr. Wolfowitz, a top-ranking official in the Bush administration. "It's doable. But they're afraid of the same thing that Bush was afraid of: declaring a goal and not achieving it."

But as Phoebe Marr, a national security expert on Iraq, put it, "There are no good options in Iraq, only less bad ones."

Until the recent crisis intensified, allied aircraft flew 20 flights a day over northern Iraq and 80 flights a day over the south to enforce no-flight zones that date from the end of the Gulf War.

Proponents of enlarging the zones to cover all of Iraq say doing so would deny Mr. Saddam sovereignty over his skies and prohibit him from using helicopter gunships to help suppress any rebellions.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff fear, however, that patrolling the huge area would be too costly, tying up

three to four times as many aircraft as the military uses now.

Mr. Saddam would be likely to test any edict by putting women and children aboard helicopters and daring U.S. fighters to shoot them down or force them to land, military experts say.

Another idea is to expand the no-drive zone in southern Iraq.

Iraqi troops and tanks are forbidden to mass south of the 32nd parallel, and experts say the cost of patrolling a larger area would be prohibitive.

The administration has also been trying to figure out whether it can tighten the already tight screws on Iraq's economy with additional financial freezes and economic sanctions. The embargo has already cost Baghdad \$110 billion in oil sales alone, Mr. Berger said.

The black-market flow of oil and other goods is hard to stop, a State Department official said. The United States is not particularly eager to stop illicit oil flows to Jordan, because Iraq is Jordan's only source of oil, the official added.

Moreover, Iran turns a blind eye to small trading ships that run along its hundreds of miles of coastline. Blocking this illicit commerce would be difficult for the marginal additional pressure on Mr. Saddam, naval experts say.

Finally, many critics have urged the administration to foster the Iraqi opposition, inside and outside the country.

But that option has flaws too. The opposition groups are relatively disorganized, poorly financed and decimated by Iraq's security forces.

## CLINTON: An Embarrassing Interview

Continued from Page 1

truthful and credible and that we do no disservice to the truth in the time between now and whenever we can provide a fuller account."

He said that while Mr. Clinton had borne up well under the pressures of the Lewinsky investigation, the mood in the White House was one of tension and distrust, as the president held his tongue on some subjects for fear that even some close advisers might leak information.

"This is the White House at the end of the 20th century," he told the Tribune. "Not only a fishbowl, but the klieg lights are on all the time. It is extraordinary. There is no zone of privacy."

Mr. McCurry, who is widely respected by reporters as a credible representative of the president, has said that he himself has avoided involvement with details of the case, out of a fear, shared by others in the White House, of being subpoenaed to testify or suffering other expensive legal entanglements.

He declined to offer new details about the case to the interviewer. But he said he found allegations of any sexual adventure in the Oval Office difficult to believe because of the number of people frequently moving through the area.

Mr. Fox, the retired Secret Service officer, appeared before the grand jury under an agreement reached Friday between the office of the independent counsel, Attorney General Janet Reno and the Treasury Department, which oversees the service. The agreement bars investigators from asking questions that could impede the ability of the Secret Service to protect the president.

Mr. Fox's lawyer, Michael Leibig, said Tuesday that his client was guarding the Oval Office on a fall afternoon in 1995 when Ms. Lewinsky went in, and that she stayed "from 20 to 40 minutes."

Mr. Leibig said on ABC-TV that Mr. Fox "didn't see anyone else at the time" with Mr. Clinton and Ms. Lewinsky but that Mr. Fox "didn't see all the exits."

The Secret Service had resisted any testimony by its employees, saying it



Lewis Fox, a former Secret Service officer, after testifying on Tuesday.

could seriously damage the future relationship between those agents or officers and the presidents and other officials they protect. Mr. Leibig, who also represents an association of former uniformed Secret Service agents, warned that grand jury testimony by any agent could compromise national security.

Meanwhile, another potential obstacle was being raised to the testimony sought by Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel. The National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers said it planned to file a brief Tuesday in federal court to support an effort by Francis Carter, a Washington lawyer who briefly represented Ms. Lewinsky, to avoid testifying to the grand jury.

The association planned to say such testimony would be a violation of the normal attorney-client privilege.

Mr. Carter had been recommended to Ms. Lewinsky by Vernon Jordan, an adviser of the president's, and Mr. Carter represented her when she provided a sworn affidavit in the Paula Jones case against Mr. Clinton, saying she had not had a sexual relationship with the president. She later replaced Mr. Carter with William Ginsburg, a lawyer who has represented her family in California.

## IRAQ: Force May Be the 'Only Answer'

Continued from Page 1

reaching diplomatic initiatives and the U.S.-led military buildup around Iraq were both nearing a climax.

The UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan, was meeting ambassadors of the five permanent members of the Security Council to seek their mandate for an urgent mission to Baghdad; the United States has insisted that Mr. Annan not be authorized to offer any concessions to Mr. Saddam.

There was no immediate indication, however, that the combined weight of diplomatic pressure and military threat had brought the Iraqi government anywhere closer to a compromise.

Mr. Clinton was speaking at the beginning of a week in which U.S. officials are expected to take their case for military action to the American public.

On Wednesday, Mr. Cohen, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and the president's national security adviser, Samuel Berger, all of whom joined Mr. Clinton at the Pentagon on Tuesday, are to appear at Ohio State University in Columbus to explain the U.S. policy on Iraq. Mrs. Albright is to visit several other cities during the week.

"If we fail to respond today," Mr. Clinton said in his speech, "Saddam and all those who would follow in his footsteps will be emboldened tomorrow."

## ■ Annan's Guidelines

Steven Erlanger of The New York Times reported from Washington:

Mr. Annan is expected to leave this week for Baghdad carrying American guidelines to limit any diplomatic compromise he may negotiate with Saddam Hussein.

The guidelines are intended to allow Mr. Annan, acting on behalf of the Security Council, to make some symbolic gestures toward Iraqi sovereignty in negotiations over access to so-called presidential compounds. But they make it clear that the role and powers of UN weapons inspectors working for UN-

scom must not be undermined or limited.

The Security Council was meeting again Tuesday. If he gets their endorsement, Mr. Annan could leave for Iraq before the weekend.

While not binding on Mr. Annan, the American guidelines will probably form the core of any consensus the Security Council might reach. And the guidelines, a senior American official said Monday, will show "where our bottom line is, because he knows there's not much point going to Baghdad and floating a proposal that we won't accept."

The Americans and British are willing to let Mr. Annan explore with Mr. Saddam some "special procedures" for the inspection of specific Iraqi presidential residences that could require the approval of Mr. Annan himself or having inspectors accompanied by other diplomats, the officials said.

## No Confirmation

## Iraq Exported Arms

Reuters

WASHINGTON — The White House said Monday that it had no credible evidence to back up a congressional report that Iraq farmed out deadly weapon components and SCUD missiles to sympathetic Arab nations, including Sudan, Yemen, Libya and Algeria.

"We have no credible evidence that Iraq has exported weapons of mass destruction technology to other countries since the Gulf War," a White House official said.

In a report last week, the director of the House of Representatives Task Force on Terrorism and Unconventional Warfare said Iraq shipped out parts of its nuclear, chemical and biological weapons programs, as well SCUD missiles, after invading Kuwait in 1990.



The 2,600 most traded stocks of the day.  
 Nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere.  
*The Associated Press.*

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12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div Yld	PE	100	High	Low	Latest	Chg
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**International Fine Art  
and Antiques Fair  
7 - 15 March  
MECC Maastricht  
The Netherlands**

**International Fine Art  
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High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	Unch.	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	Unch.	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	Unch.
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10 1/2	10	10	10	100	0	10 1/2	10	10	10	100	0	10 1/2	10	10	10	100	0
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9 1/2	9	9	9	100	0	9 1/2	9	9	9	100	0	9 1/2	9	9	9	100	0
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7	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	100	0	7	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	100	0	7	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	100	0
6 1/2	6	6	6	100	0	6 1/2	6	6	6	100	0	6 1/2	6	6	6	100	0
6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	100	0	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	100	0	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	100	0
5 1/2	5	5	5	100	0	5 1/2	5	5	5	100	0	5 1/2	5	5	5	100	0
5	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	100	0	5	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	100	0	5	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	100	0
4 1/2	4	4	4	100	0	4 1/2	4	4	4	100	0	4 1/2	4	4	4	100	0
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3 1/2	3	3	3	100	0	3 1/2	3	3	3	100	0	3 1/2	3	3	3	100	0
3	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	100	0	3	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	100	0	3	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	100	0
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1 1/2	1	1	1	100	0	1 1/2	1	1	1	100	0	1 1/2	1	1	1	100	0
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**Continued on Page 16**

**SINGAPORE** — Following continued, strong resistance, the price of oil has advanced 30 percent in the last 12 months, and is now trading at 18 cents a gallon, the highest level in the world. A fourth oil price hike is expected in the near future, and another hike in the export of oil is also in the air.

According to the Singapore Petroleum Corporation, the price of oil has advanced 30 percent in the last 12 months, and is now trading at 18 cents a gallon, the highest level in the world. A fourth oil price hike is expected in the near future, and another hike in the export of oil is also in the air.

The Singapore Petroleum Corporation, which is the sole oil supplier in the country, has announced that it will increase the price of oil by 10 percent in the near future. This is the fourth increase in the price of oil in the last 12 months.

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## Job Cut Aims to Restore Profitability, Firm Says

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**CURRENCY**

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	BALANCE
1954			
1-1	Balance	100.00	100.00
1-15	Interest	5.00	105.00
1-30	Interest	5.00	110.00
2-15	Interest	5.00	115.00
2-28	Interest	5.00	120.00
3-15	Interest	5.00	125.00
3-31	Interest	5.00	130.00
4-15	Interest	5.00	135.00
4-30	Interest	5.00	140.00
5-15	Interest	5.00	145.00
5-31	Interest	5.00	150.00
6-15	Interest	5.00	155.00
6-30	Interest	5.00	160.00
7-15	Interest	5.00	165.00
7-31	Interest	5.00	170.00
8-15	Interest	5.00	175.00
8-31	Interest	5.00	180.00
9-15	Interest	5.00	185.00
9-30	Interest	5.00	190.00
10-15	Interest	5.00	195.00
10-31	Interest	5.00	200.00
11-15	Interest	5.00	205.00
11-30	Interest	5.00	210.00
12-15	Interest	5.00	215.00
12-31	Interest	5.00	220.00
1955			
1-1	Balance	220.00	220.00
1-15	Interest	5.00	225.00
1-30	Interest	5.00	230.00
2-15	Interest	5.00	235.00
2-28	Interest	5.00	240.00
3-15	Interest	5.00	245.00
3-31	Interest	5.00	250.00
4-15	Interest	5.00	255.00
4-30	Interest	5.00	260.00
5-15	Interest	5.00	265.00
5-31	Interest	5.00	270.00
6-15	Interest	5.00	275.00
6-30	Interest	5.00	280.00
7-15	Interest	5.00	285.00
7-31	Interest	5.00	290.00
8-15	Interest	5.00	295.00
8-31	Interest	5.00	300.00
9-15	Interest	5.00	305.00
9-30	Interest	5.00	310.00
10-15	Interest	5.00	315.00
10-31	Interest	5.00	320.00
11-15	Interest	5.00	325.00
11-30	Interest	5.00	330.00
12-15	Interest	5.00	335.00
12-31	Interest	5.00	340.00





WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1998

PAGE 13

## In Turnabout, Southeast Asian Nations Try to Stabilize Shaky Indonesia

By Michael Richardson  
International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE — Financial turmoil, looming recession and race riots have undermined Indonesia's standing in Southeast Asia and alarmed its neighbors, who now see the world's fourth most populous nation as a dangerous source of instability for the region, officials and analysts say.

Regarded by other Southeast Asian countries for more than two decades as a "first among equals" by virtue of its size, moderating influence and constructive diplomacy, Indonesia has been overwhelmed and is no longer able to play its traditional role. Political and Economic Risk Consultancy Ltd. of Hong Kong warned in a recent report.

"Once the diplomatic leader in ASEAN, playing host to international conferences seeking to resolve outstanding regional problems in Indochina and

the conflicting territorial claims in the South China Sea," the report said, "Indonesia itself may soon become the focus of attention of regional governments who feel obliged to set aside their own problems to consider how they are going to help Jakarta avoid an economic and political maelstrom that could make things worse for just about everybody."

That trend was evident Tuesday when the leaders of Malaysia and Singapore agreed in talks in Kuala Lumpur to resolve several long-standing bilateral disputes and focus on new areas of cooperation.

Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad and his Singapore counterpart, Goh Chok Tong, "recognized that the regional financial crisis has further underscored the need for both countries to cooperate closely in all possible areas," a joint statement said, citing investment and use of regional currencies to avoid dependence on the U.S. dollar.

The Association of South East Asian Nations comprises Brunei, Burma, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Malaysia is the current chairman. Mr. Mahathir said he and Mr. Goh had discussed the situation in Indonesia.

## NEWS ANALYSIS

not because they were seeking to interfere in its internal affairs but because what happened there would have repercussions throughout the region.

Sharp falls in the value of the Indonesian rupiah have undermined support for other regional currencies. Indonesia's Southeast Asian neighbors are concerned that racial clashes there, which have pitted majority Muslims against minority ethnic Chinese, could spill over to other countries — nearly all of which have ethnic Chinese minorities. Singapore is the

only country in the region with a population that is mostly Chinese.

"Singapore is a small essentially ethnic Chinese state surrounded by Malay/Muslim populations, many of whom harbor deep and thinly disguised resentments over the domination of their own economies by ethnic Chinese," said Bruce Gale, Political and Economic Risk Consultancy's regional manager based in Singapore. "In the coming months, as unemployment rises and competition for scarce resources in neighboring countries increases, these underlying ethnic tensions could rise to the surface."

Some officials are concerned that recession in Indonesia and Thailand — both of which had to turn to the International Monetary Fund for assistance — and currency depreciations and economic troubles in other countries of ASEAN will weaken the group's plan to implement a regional free-trade zone

and integrate other sectors of their economies.

In significant gestures of regional solidarity, Singapore contributed \$5 billion and Malaysia \$1 billion, in U.S. dollars, to the \$43 billion in emergency loans for Indonesia organized by the International Monetary Fund in exchange for Indonesian pledges to undertake sweeping economic reforms.

But Mr. Goh said in Kuala Lumpur that a Singapore initiative to put together a multilateral trade-financing guarantee for Indonesia so that it could get essential imports and exports moving again had been delayed by Jakarta's move to replace its central bank with a currency-board system that would tie the value of the rupiah to the U.S. dollar.

He said that Singapore had put forward the proposal on the basis that Bank Indonesia, the central bank, would guarantee payments for Indonesian imports.

"We expect the rupiah to be rather volatile," Mr. Goh said. "It may strengthen for a while, but by and large it's going to be a volatile currency. That means the Indonesians are going to find it tough to import foodstuffs, components, spare parts."

Mr. Goh said rising costs would add to unemployment pressures and social unrest. "It's worrying," he added. "They face a severe problem."

Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai of Thailand said in an interview with Reuters on Monday that Indonesia's problems and their contagious effect on neighboring countries would stunt any Thai recovery.

Mr. Mahathir will visit oil-rich Brunei Wednesday to discuss the region's economic and financial crisis, officials said Tuesday. The Malaysian leader has held similar consultations recently in Thailand, the Philippines and Singapore to try to develop a more coordinated ASEAN strategy.

Holzmann  
To Downsize  
In GermanyJob Cut Aims to Restore  
Profitability, Firm Says

Compiled by Our Staff From Despatches

FRANKFURT — Philipp Holzmann AG, Germany's largest construction company, said Tuesday it would cut more than 4,000 jobs, including 3,000 in Germany, or 14 percent of its German work force, to try to return to profitability this year.

The company, which said Monday it would post an operating loss of as much as 250 million Deutsche marks (\$137 million), said it would cut the jobs this year amid a "difficult economic situation."

Faced with some of the world's highest wage costs and a sluggish economy, Holzmann and other German companies have cut back and reorganized to try to remain competitive. Those measures have bolstered Germany's unemployment rate, which reached another post-World War II record of 12.6 percent in January.

The construction sector is one of the hardest hit, facing its third consecutive year of investment decline. Last year, Holzmann cut its German work force by about 2,000 jobs, or 9 percent, to 20,830. Worldwide, the builder cut its staff by 23 percent, to 40,168, in 1997.

But this year Holzmann was hurt by foreign losses as well as by its real-estate activities. Its Thai unit, Philipp Holzmann (Thailand) Ltd., lost 200 million DM, while 100 million DM was lost at its French unit, Nord France SA.

Holzmann's chairman, Heinrich Binder, said that withdrawing from unprofitable activities in Thailand and France and cutting jobs would help the company save 300 million DM and achieve its objective of a slight profit in 1998. In 1996, the group had a net profit of 1 million DM.

"The divestment of loss-making foreign activities in France and Thailand is only the first step in this process," Mr. Binder said.

"Risky" real-estate ventures will be cut back "to a lean but profitable portfolio under professional management," Mr. Binder added. He also said the company planned to shrink its Thai payroll to 600 from 2,900.

German job cuts would include reducing central administration staff to 200 from 540, Holzmann said. The total domestic work force in 1998 would fall to about 18,000.

The company said it also planned to enter into strategic partnerships to help it back into profit.

"In the medium term, it is vital to expand those international business activities strategically important for Philipp Holzmann and realize a steadily increasing value from this source," the company said.

Holzmann's shares closed in Frankfurt at 430 DM, down 8.

(Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP)



Tina Brown, the celebrated editor of a troubled magazine.

## The Magazine With Everything but a Profit

The New Yorker's Financial Woes Provide Rich Grist for Media Gossip Mill

By Robin Pogrebin  
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The New Yorker would seem to be the magazine that has everything: An illustrious 73-year history. A powerhouse editor. Prominent writers. Buzz. Everything except a profit.

Last year, the privately held magazine lost about \$11 million. That is an improvement over 1996, when it lost about \$14 million and over 1995, when the loss was about \$17 million. But the ink is still running red nonetheless.

Why that continues to be the case 13 years after S.I. Newhouse Jr. bought The New Yorker for \$168 million remains one of the great mysteries in publishing.

The drama has been heightened because of its larger-than-life characters: Mr. Newhouse, 70, the chairman of Advance Publications, which owns The New Yorker as well as Conde Nast Publications; Tina Brown, The New Yorker's editor, 44; Thomas Florio, 41, the magazine's president, and Steven Florio, 48, Tom's brother and the president and chief executive of Conde Nast.

As a result, the magazine has lately become delectable grist for the media gossip mill, so much so that it is difficult to tell solid fact from dizzying spin.

The current flurry of attention focused on The New Yorker was prompted by reports that the magazine would be folded into Conde Nast's corporate umbrella in January 1999, to be sold to advertisers as a package with the company's 15 other publications, including Vogue, Glamour and GQ.

The New Yorker will also physically become part of Conde Nast,

moving from its offices on West 43d Street into the Conde Nast tower rising in Times Square.

Although advertisers would have to adjust to Conde Nast's inflexible ad rates after being accustomed to The New Yorker's negotiations, several said that the merger simply made business sense. The New Yorker would benefit from the marketing muscle of a smooth-running ad machine and would save money by merging its back-office operations into Conde Nast's cushy infrastructure.

But some media executives say the possible merger raises questions about the magazine's independence and about why, in a strong economy with a celebrated editor, a magazine many refer to as the gold standard has not been able to make a dime.

Many people similarly mystified assume that Mr. Newhouse must be fed up with losing money on The New Yorker — despite being personally worth \$4.5 billion from his other media holdings, according to Forbes — and see the possible Conde Nast merger as a sign that he feels the need for drastic measures.

But, sitting in a faded New Yorker sweatshirt at his office last week, Mr. Newhouse said he was unconcerned, that he viewed Mr. Brown's New Yorker as a start-up and that losing money on start-ups was routine. "It was practically a new magazine," he said. "She added topicality, photography, color. She did what we would have done had we invented The New Yorker from scratch."

"To do all that was costly," he added. "We knew it would be."

So if he is pleased with the progress of The New Yorker, why did

See MAGAZINE, Page 17

OECD Steps Up Efforts  
On Investment AccordBy Carl Gewirtz  
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Senior government officials meeting here Tuesday agreed to "intensify their efforts" to reach agreement on a controversial treaty covering foreign investments in time for signing in April at the ministerial meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Participants at the two-day meeting about the multilateral agreement on investment said that an accord was within reach and that everyone around the table wanted such an agreement. This included the 29 governments who belong to the OECD — the so-called "rich man's club" — the most advanced nations — as well as five participants from the developing world, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Slovakia and Hong Kong.

But the U.S. delegation, led by the undersecretary of state, Stuart Eizenstat, expressed reservations that the work could be finished in time for the ministerial meeting in late April.

When completed, the treaty will be open for signature to all nations and is expected to serve as a beacon, attracting investments to those who sign and deflecting investments from countries that reject its provisions.

The treaty aims to establish rules protecting direct foreign investments, which already total about \$8 trillion and are growing by about \$350 billion a year, assuring foreign investors that

they will be treated on an equal footing with local investors.

To critics who have asserted that the agreement would give multinationals too much power in the ability to override local laws, particularly on environmental issues, the negotiators said that they had heard and understood these concerns and that the final text would make clear that rather than threatening environmental or labor standards, the treaty would become a vehicle for better policies.

The negotiators said that the final text would make clear that domestic legislation that applied to all investors would not be subject to dispute under the treaty.

On the politically charged issue of Europe's insistence that cultural trade be excluded, officials said there was never any intention of going back on the agreement that had been reached on this issue in a 1993 world trade agreement excluding the cultural area.

As for Europe's insistence that any agreement would have to include language that inhibited unilateral declarations of laws to be applied internationally, European officials said these negotiations were never intended to resolve the dispute over the extraterritorial reach of U.S. laws regarding investments in Iran and Libya or the use of expropriated property in Cuba.

But "a solution to these issues seems necessary to ensure a successful outcome of the negotiations," the communiqué issued at the end of the meeting said.

## CURRENCY &amp; INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates										Libor-Libor Rates									
	£	¥	DM	FF	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹										
American	1.46	132	1.32	0.63	0.14	—	—	—	—	1-month	5 1/8	5 1/8	5 1/8	5 1/8	5 1/8	5 1/8	5 1/8	5 1/8	5 1/8
British	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3-month	5 3/4	5 3/4	5 3/4	5 3/4	5 3/4	5 3/4	5 3/4	5 3/4	5 3/4
French	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6-month	5 7/8	5 7/8	5 7/8	5 7/8	5 7/8	5 7/8	5 7/8	5 7/8	5 7/8
German	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1-year	6 1/8	6 1/8	6 1/8	6 1/8	6 1/8	6 1/8	6 1/8	6 1/8	6 1/8
Italian	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18-month	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4
Japanese	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24-month	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Spanish	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30-month	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4
Swiss	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36-month	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8
Thai	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1-year	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4
U.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18-month	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
West German	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24-month	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4
Yen	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30-month	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8
Other Dollar Values										36-month	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8
Australian	0.9998	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1-year	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4
Canadian	0.7239	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18-month	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Chinese	8.275	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24-month	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4
European	1.32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30-month	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8
French	0.206	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36-month	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8
German	0.636	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1-year	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4
Italian	0.193	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18-month	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Japanese	1.07	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24-month	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4
Spanish	1.66	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30-month	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8
Swiss	1.429	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36-month	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8
Thai	1.547	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1-year	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4
U.S.	1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18-month	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
West German	1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24-month	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4
Yen	1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30-month	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8
Forward Rates										36-month	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8
American	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1-year	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4
British	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18-month	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
French	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24-month	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4
German	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30-month	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8
Italian	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36-month	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8
Japanese	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1-year	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4
Spanish	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18-month	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Swiss	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24-month	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4	6 3/4
Thai	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30-month	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8	6 7/8
U.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36-month	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8	7 1/8
West German	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1-year	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4
Yen	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18-month	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2

Headquarters of Republic National Bank of New York  
(Rising) S.I. in Geneva.

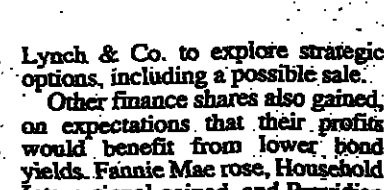
Global Private Banking

SECURITY IS THE MAIN REASON  
WHY SO MANY CLIENTS BANK  
WITH US. AND STAY WITH US.

Many private banking clients split their assets three ways. They keep a part for special opportunities. Another part for longer-term growth. And, very importantly, a part



## Reform in Re



## Pound Holds B...

Chessen, chief economist at the American Bankers Association.

The relatively high interest rates on loans other than home mortgages probably have helped curb borrow-

ers' appetites. The Fed has kept its benchmark short-term interest rate at 5.5 percent, preventing banks to

at 5.5 percent — prompting banks to keep their prime rates at a lofty 8.5 percent — even as inflation has vir-

Should the decline in inflation

give way to actual deflation, or a general decline in prices, debt repayment would become far

That is because much of the bor-

rowed money has been used to buy assets, from homes to cars, whose value would decline.

An example on a limited scale is the real-estate downturn of the

1980s, when some homeowners in depressed markets found themselves

## STOCK MARKET

Opint		High	Low	Latest	Chgo	Opint
TTF	Sep 98	95.61	95.58	95.60	+0.05	131,952
	Dec 98	95.81	95.78	95.81	+0.06	135,200
120.814	Mar 99	95.80	95.78	95.80	+0.06	142,203
13.288	Jun 99	95.69	95.66	95.68	+0.06	30,840

Est. sales: 88,111.	Prev. sales: 57,981
Prev. open int.: 813.422	up 2.473

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<b>FE</b>	<b>Industrials</b>
<b>COTTON 2 (NCN)</b>	
50,000 lbs.-cents per lb.	
May 98	66.05 66.60 65.94 -0.30 21,674
Mar 98	67.85 66.92 67.13 -0.54 22,188
Jul 98	68.70 68.25 68.32 -0.70 17,440
Oct 98	70.95 70.50 70.51 -0.56 2,341

	Dec 98	72.35	71.90	71.96	-0.45	19,443
	Est. notes N.A. Frfs sales 22,220					
	Frfs open int 85,507, up 1,991					
10,551						
4,296						
723						
<b>HEATING OIL (MMER)</b>						
42,000 gal. cents per gal						
	Mar 98	44.40	43.25	43.74	-0.98	38,127
	Apr 98	45.20	44.10	44.52	-0.97	34,479
	May 98	45.98	44.80	45.22	-0.87	15,264
	Jun 98	46.50	45.50	45.92	-0.77	16,912
	Jul 98	47.30	46.40	46.72	-0.67	12,218
	Aug 98	48.10	47.55	47.57	-0.57	8,560

28.64	Sep 98	49.00	48.47	48.47	-0.57	7,611
28.70	Est. sales N.A. Firs sales 24,225					
28.74	Firs open Int 160,162, off 1,685					
10,344						
74,693						
23,043						
29,901						
78,092						
82,922						
60,843						
<b>LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (MMB)</b>						
1,000 bbl. - dollars per bbl.						
Apr 98	15.18	15.58	15.46	-0.26	63,799	
May 98	16.13	15.75	15.88	0.07	87,746	
Jun 98	16.51	16.02	16.17	-0.24	36,457	
Jul 98	16.69	16.30	16.46	-0.31	48,201	
Aug 98	16.87	16.45	16.72	-0.28	25,844	
Sep 98	17.15	16.85	16.94	-0.26	16,612	

Est. sales N.A. Frts sales 94.285				
Frts open Int 460.548 off 516				
28.104				
1.577				
569				
NATURAL GAS (MMBtu)				
10,000 mm btus \$ per mm btu				
Mar 98	2.280	2.152	2.166	-0.042 34.826
Apr 98	2.247	2.190	2.205	-0.080 27.119
May 98	2.275	2.293	2.265	-0.032 15.857
Jun 98	2.280	2.245	2.245	-0.027 4.545
Jul 98	2.300	2.265	2.280	-0.027 10.427
Aug 98	2.310	2.280	2.295	-0.022 12.948
Est sales N.A. Frts sales 94.285				

UNLEADED GASOLINE (MMR)					
42.000 gal. costs per gallon					
Mar 98	47.60	38.00	49.47	-0.49	25.017
Apr 98	47.60	38.00	50.65	-0.49	25.723
May 98	53.40	52.50	52.22	-0.49	15.679
Jun 98	52.70	52.95	53.42	-0.44	10.687
Jul 98	53.65	52.90	53.41	-0.36	9.270
Aug 98	53.25	52.90	52.97	-0.29	4.588
Sep 98	53.45	53.75	52.45	-0.51	5.176
Oct 98	51.40	50.95	51.25	-0.36	8.950

98,141	Est. sales N.A. Frfr sales 23,461
3,070	Frfrs open int 104,624 int 3,813
538	
	<b>GASOL (GPE)</b>
	U.S. dollars per metric ton - lots of 180 tons
	May 98 132.25 134.25 132.25 -1.50 98,215
	Apr98 139.00 136.75 137.25 -1.75 12,413
	May 98 141.25 139.25 139.25 -1.75 9,398
	Jun 98 142.50 142.00 142.75 -1.25 13,584
51,212	Jul 98 145.50 144.00 145.25 -1.75 4,267
1,899	Aug 98 147.50 146.25 147.50 -0.50 4,950
1,190	
	Est. sales 24,500 Frfr sales -11,467

Brent oil (IPE)	
U.S. dollars per barrel - lots of 1,000 barrels	
Apr 98	14.65 14.37 14.41 -0.07 95.660
May 98	14.95 14.73 14.75 -0.08 22.725
Jun 98	15.27 15.04 15.04 -0.11 26.045
Jul 98	15.55 15.32 15.32 -0.11 13.820
Aug 98	15.78 15.58 15.56 -0.10 6.915

Est. sales: 33,000 Prev. sales: 20,537  
Prev. open int.: 215,051 off 1,103

Stock Indexes	
SP COMP INDEX (CME)	
250 x Index	
Mar 98	1033.50 1014.50 1025.10 +2.80 398.113
Apr 98	1033.50 1033.50 1033.18 +3.16 15.340
May 98	1033.50 1033.50 1033.50 +10.25 3.933
Est. sales N.A. Firs sales 66,977	
Firs open hq 410,309, off 2,618	
FTSE 100 (LIFFE)	
225 per index point	
Mar 98	5299.0 5430.0 5480.0 +64.0 62.154

101	Est. sales: 9,130. Prev. sales: 4,752
0	Prev. open int.: \$2,154 off 164
5708	
7380	
5132	CAC 40 (ANATIF)
5120	FF300 per index point
5716	Feb 98 3232.0 3232.0 +57.5 41,308
5726	Mar 98 3301.0 3361.0 3302.0 +57.5 24,732
410	Apr 98 3369.5 3369.5 3367.0 +57.5 60
	Jun 98 3260.5 3234.0 3267.0 +57.0 1,055
	Est. sales: 12,444.
	Open int.: \$7,790 off 113.

Commodity Indexes		
	Class	Prices
Moody's	1,447.10	1,451.50
Reuters	1,725.20	1,729.50
D.J. Futures	143.78	145.48
CRB	228.83	231.61

Sources: *Moody's Associated Press, London*  
*Int'l Financial Futures Exchange, Int'l*

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## EUROPE

## Reform in Romania: Impatience Is Growing

By Peter S. Green  
International Herald Tribune

**PRAGUE** — Romania's government is pressing ahead with economic reforms after weeks of political squabbling, but analysts say that unless the talk turns into action, the country will face a full-fledged crisis by year's end.

After surviving calls for his resignation, the reform-minded prime minister, Victor Ciorbea, won Parliament's approval for his reshuffled cabinet last week.

But a stagnant stock market and disappointing economic statistics for 1997 that were made public last week, including a 6.6 percent drop in gross domestic product, 151 percent inflation and 8.8 percent unemployment, illustrate the pressure the government is under.

The Bucharest Stock Exchange's B.E.T. index of 10 blue-chip issues has risen 6 percent in the last month but is still down 12 percent over three months.

"It's time for them to do something," said Parvolya Shereva, a Romania analyst at ING-Barings in London.

A team from the International Monetary Fund is in Romania this week to determine whether reform is back on track before it will re-

lease the final tranche of a \$410 million standby loan that the country needs to remain solvent.

Mr. Ciorbea's four-party coalition government came to power just over a year ago promising radical economic changes. While it has had some success stabilizing the economy, public resistance to reform and political battles within the cabinet have hampered efforts to complete projects such as privatizing government holdings, cutting

## Romanians need their leaders to take firm decisions and carry out decisive actions now.

state subsidies and closing unprofitable mines and factories.

President Emil Constantinescu, who led the reformers to victory after seven years of rule by former Communists, has clearly grown exasperated with the government's inaction. "Unfortunately, for a month there was more talk than ever about reform, but less than ever was implemented," he said after swearing in the new cabinet members. "Romanians need their leaders to take firm decisions and carry out decisive actions now."

Unless Mr. Ciorbea can do that, say his opponents, they will gain

strength to do this, things will get very complicated.

The government says it plans to privatize the country's telecommunications monopoly, Romtel, this year, as well as float large parts of at least three companies on international stock markets and privatize some 1,600 small and medium-sized enterprises with a total value of from \$2.7 billion to \$3 billion.

Already, it has lowered interest rates by offering Treasury bonds to domestic investors. Overnight borrowing rates are now between 80 percent and 90 percent, down from 120 percent last month. Tax changes have slashed top tax brackets, replacing lost revenue with consumption taxes, rules on foreign investment and ownership have been eased, and the Romanian currency is now almost fully convertible.

Dan Barbu, head of research at the Bucharest brokerage Vanguard, said that although the macroeconomic picture did not look good yet, privatization was proceeding. He also said that foreign portfolio investors brought \$450 million into Romania last year and took out only \$10 million. The reason so much investment stayed here, he said, was that "the prices here are bargain prices, and you don't sell at bargain prices."

The government's key reformers understand these problems. "The main problem is neither the budget deficit nor monetary policy but structural reforms," said Finance Minister Daniel Daianu. "If we don't make a breakthrough, if we are not perceived as having the

sands of jobs. The country's current-account deficit stands at \$2.1 billion, or 6 percent of its gross domestic product. Its budget deficit is slightly healthier, at 4.1 percent of GDP. And although interest rates have come down in the last month, they remain prohibitively high for small businesses.

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## Stocks Reach New Heights In Europe

Compiled by Carolee From Des Moines

**LONDON** — Europe's major stock markets hit record highs Tuesday as Wall Street and global bond markets jumped on hopes that U.S. interest rates would not rise soon and may eventually start to drop.

Bourses in London, Frankfurt, Paris, Zurich, Madrid and Brussels soared to new levels after the Federal Reserve Board reported that U.S. factory output had shown little sign of growth in January.

"This is again a pretty constructive number for the fixed-income markets," said Mitch Stapley of Kent Funds. "This helps the market build a foundation, and rates can continue to work lower."

The U.S. data helped propel Wall Street shares at the start of trading in New York, and European stocks followed course.

The Financial Times-Stock Exchange 100-share index in London finished 89.60 points, or 1.59 percent, higher at a record 5,709.50 points amid takeover speculation and robust earnings from some of Britain's largest companies.

"The banks, financial-services and drug companies still have a lot of mergers and deals yet to come," said Peter Hewin, head of research at Murray Johnstone.

The electronic Xetra DAX Index in Frankfurt finished 91.86 points, or 2.03 percent, higher at a record close of 4,627.42, lifted by a strong bond market.

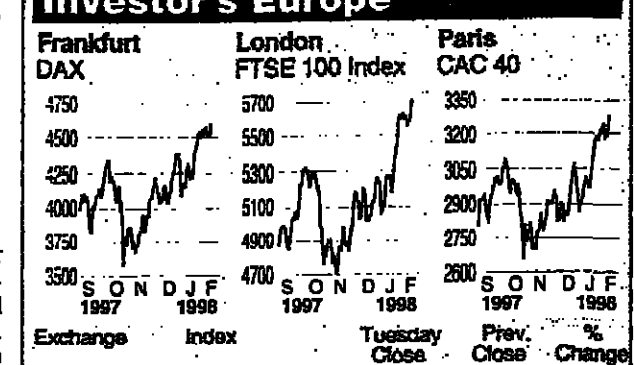
"Speculation in the financial markets is lifting stocks," said Christian Dreyer of Banque Nationale de Paris. "The talk that Allianz and Dresdner may announce some plans is still there."

In Paris, the CAC-40 index gained 64.33 points, or 1.72 percent, to a record finish of 3,280.45, as lower interest rates cut borrowing costs for companies.

Spanish stocks gained, pushing the IBEX 35 index to a record of 8,283.77 points, up 138.90 points, or 1.71 percent, led by the utility company Endesa SA and Telefonica de Espana SA.

Swiss stocks also set a record amid speculation there will be further consolidation among financial-services companies. The Swiss Market Index of 21 shares finished 85.20 points, or 1.22 percent, higher at 6,950.50. (Reuters, Bloomberg)

## Investor's Europe



Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	AEX	1,006.50	985.84	+2.10
Brussels	BEL-20	2,689.59	2,654.51	+1.32
Frankfurt	DAX	4,627.42	4,520.64	+1.81
Copenhagen	Stock Market	694.90	682.66	+0.29
Helsinki	HEX General	3,941.18	3,873.02	+1.76
Oslo	OBX	679.26	667.45	+1.77
London	FTSE 100	5,709.50	5,519.50	+1.59
Madrid	Stock Exchange	784.40	713.77	+1.49
Milan	MIBTEL	19932	19566	+1.40
Paris	CAC 40	3,280.45	3,225.12	+1.72
Stockholm	SX 16	3,594.81	3,528.62	+1.86
Vienna	ATX	1,341.17	1,340.83	+0.03
Zurich	SPI	4,332.08	4,284.53	+1.13

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

## Very briefly:

• WPP Group PLC credited cost-cutting and new business with helping it to overcome the effects of the strong pound and post a 14.6 percent increase in second-half profit, to £64.3 million (\$105.3 million).

• Gencor Ltd., a South African precious-metals producer, said first-half profit after one-time items fell 36.7 percent, to 56 million rand (\$11.4 million), as gains in platinum offset losses in gold.

• Britain's public sector had a record monthly surplus in January of £10.38 billion; economists said changes in the personal-taxation system were one major reason.

• Barclays PLC's 1997 pretax profit fell 26 percent, to £1.71 billion, after exceptional charges of £425 million related to the sale of the bank's investment-banking activities.

• Telefonica de Espana SA canceled a board meeting that had been scheduled for Wednesday to deal principally with strategy and the telephone company's international alliances.

• Thyssen Handelunion AG, the services division of Thyssen AG, signed a letter of intent to sell Thyssen Schulte Bautechnik, a unit with nearly 2 billion Deutsche marks (\$1.1 billion) in sales, to Clayton, Dubilier & Rice, a New York-based investment company.

• Ferrovie dello Stato, the Italian railway, said its entire board of directors, which had been heavily criticized in recent months over several accidents, had resigned. A meeting was called for Wednesday to elect a new board.

• AFC Ajax, Amsterdam's soccer club, plans to sell 30 percent of its shares to the public to try to raise about 100 million guilders (\$48.8 million).

• Svenska Handelsbanken AB, Sweden's largest bank in terms of assets, said its fourth-quarter profit fell 8 percent, to 1.48 billion kronor (\$183.1 million), as income from bond trading decreased. (Bloomberg, AFP, Reuters)

## Pound Holds Back SmithKline Net

Compiled by Our Staff From Des Moines

**LONDON** — SmithKline Beecham PLC, the drugmaker that is negotiating to merge with its rival Glaxo Wellcome PLC, said Tuesday that 1997 pretax profit rose 7 percent, in line with expectations, even as adverse currency movements held down a rise in new-product sales.

The company also said it expected to make a further announcement about its merger talks with Glaxo Wellcome in early March.

Jan Leschly, the chief executive, said the proposed merger, which would create the world's largest pharmaceutical company, represented a "compelling strategic opportunity" for both companies to enhance their industrial position and shareholder value.

SmithKline said that pretax profit rose to £1.65 billion (\$2.70 billion)

last year from £1.54 billion in 1996, even though the strength of the pound had cut pretax profit by £157 million and trimmed sales by £666 million.

Excluding the currency impact, profit rose 17 percent, while sales rose 11 percent.

Revenue for 1997 was down 1.6 percent, at \$7.79 billion. Sales of prescription pharmaceuticals rose 13 percent, to \$4.57 billion.

Steve Abbott, an analyst at Credit Lyonnais Laing, said there were no surprises in the earnings statement. "The thing that was most important is what they are going to do and when they will talk about the merger," he said.

If you look at the underlying growth, we are doing very well," Mr. Leschly said. "Our new products are living up to expectations, and the consumer business is

doing very well." Shares of SmithKline rose 6 pence to close at 841.

Separately, the Swedish-American pharmaceutical group Pharmacia & Upjohn Inc. posted a 26 percent fall in net profit for 1997, to \$739 million, as restructuring costs from its 1995 merger continued to weigh down results.

Sales fell 6 percent from 1996, to \$6.35 billion, adjusted for comparable units. The company said it took a fourth-quarter restructuring charge of \$493 million.

Pharmacia & Upjohn announced last year that it would combine its sales, marketing, clinical research and development, and business functions into a single worldwide pharmaceutical business.

The company said it expected to take additional restructuring charges of less than \$100 million in 1998. (Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP)

## Talks on Currency For Africa Founder

Reuters

**ABUJA, Nigeria** — Talks on a single monetary zone for 16 West African countries foundered Tuesday over disagreements between former British and French colonies, Nigerian officials said.

They said the planned introduction of a travelers' check in a common currency for the Economic Community of West African States had been postponed after a meeting of a subcommittee was canceled.

"They are still trying to sort out the areas of disagreement, but the gap between the anglophone and francophone countries is huge, and there appears no clear way of bridging it," a Nigerian official said.

A Nigerian official said. A common currency was first proposed more than 10 years ago. At a meeting last year, the group called for the creation of a single monetary zone by 2000.

## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Tuesday, Feb. 17

Prices in local currencies.

Telekurs

High Low Close Prev.

Amsterdam

AEX index: 1004.30

Previous: 985.84

ABN-AMRO

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The 1,000 most traded National Market securities  
In terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.  
The Associated Press

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

**Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close**  
(Continued)

12 Month	Stock	Div Yld	PE	1000	High	Low	Latest Cr
1894	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1895	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1896	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1897	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1898	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1899	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1900	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1901	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1902	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1903	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1904	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1905	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1906	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1907	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1908	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1909	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1910	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1911	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1912	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1913	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1914	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1915	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1916	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1917	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1918	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1919	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1920	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1921	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1922	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1923	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1924	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1925	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1926	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1927	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1928	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1929	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1930	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1931	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1932	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1933	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1934	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1935	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1936	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1937	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1938	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1939	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1940	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1941	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1942	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1943	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1944	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1945	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1946	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1947	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1948	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1949	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1950	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1951	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1952	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1953	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1954	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1955	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1956	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1957	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1958	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1959	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1960	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1961	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1962	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1963	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1964	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1965	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1966	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1967	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1968	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1969	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1970	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1971	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1972	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1973	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1974	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1975	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1976	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1977	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1978	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1979	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1980	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1981	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1982	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1983	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1984	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1985	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1986	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1987	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1988	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1989	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1990	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1991	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1992	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1993	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1994	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1995	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1996	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1997	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1998	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
1999	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2000	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2001	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2002	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2003	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2004	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2005	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2006	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2007	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2008	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2009	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2010	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2011	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2012	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2013	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2014	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2015	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2016	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2017	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2018	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2019	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2020	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2021	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2022	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
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2024	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2025	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2026	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
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2030	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2031	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2032	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2033	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
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2038	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2039	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2040	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
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2045	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2046	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2047	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2048	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2049	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2050	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2051	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2052	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2053	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2054	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2055	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2056	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2057	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2058	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2059	Union	1.1	13	14	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
2060	Union	1.1	13	14			

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## ASIA/PACIFIC

## China Maps Tariff Cuts For WTO

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — China promised Tuesday to submit to the World Trade Organization an offer of detailed tariff cuts in a move seen as a step forward in its bid to join the free-trade club.

Leon Brittan, the European Union trade commissioner, said he had won the pledge for sweeping tariff cuts in his meetings with Chinese officials including Foreign Trade Minister Wu Yi.

"It has now been agreed that we will get the real nitty-gritty in the form of a line-by-line offer in Geneva by early March," Mr. Brittan said in Beijing.

He said he had no details on what the proposal would be but added that he had pushed Beijing to eliminate many "tariff peaks," or rates over 15 percent.

Analysts said the offer was a small but positive step toward China's winning a seat in the WTO, which sets the rules for international trade.

"It is encouraging that they are committing to a time," a Western diplomat said.

China imposes average tariffs of 17 percent. It cut tariffs from an average of 23 percent last October in a move to improve its chances for entry to the WTO.

President Jiang Zemin has pledged that China will cut tariffs to an average 15 percent by 2000.

But analysts said that membership was still a long way off for China despite steady improvements in its tariff regime.

The European Union called Tuesday for an annual summit meeting with China to improve political ties. Mr. Brittan said that improved political links were necessary to maintain the economic impetus to bring China into the mainstream.

"We already have an agreement that there will be a meeting between China and Europe on the sidelines of the Asia-Europe meeting in London later this year, but there is no agreement to make it an annual event or to involve heads of state," he said.

(Reuters, AFP)

## Taiwan Confident of Bank Leader's Legacy

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TAIPEI — Before his death in a plane crash, Taiwan's central bank governor helped create a strong banking system that has survived the recent Asian turmoil and will probably remain solid, analysts said Tuesday.

The central banker, Shu Yuan-dong, was among the 203 people killed Monday in the crash of a China Airlines Airbus 300 near the Chiang Kai-shek International Airport in Taipei.

"It was a terrible disaster, but investors are not panicking," said Oliver Fang, an analyst at National Securities. "The investors are confident that governor Shu's death will not adversely affect the central bank's ability to support Taiwan's economy."

Mr. Shu, 70, guided Taiwan through a controlled devaluation of its currency — about 16 percent against the dollar in the past year — as other Asian exchange rates plunged. Whoever succeeds him must now ensure that accelerating inflation does not threaten one of the few economies in the region that is likely to accelerate this year.

Patrick Liang, one of Mr. Shu's deputies, and Paul Chiu, the island's finance minister, emerged as the leading candidates to head of the world's third-richest central bank.

Mr. Liang, named acting governor early Tuesday, moved quickly to reassure investors that Mr. Shu's policies would continue.

At an emergency meeting before the markets opened Tuesday, Mr. Li-

ang vowed to maintain the "not loose, not tight" monetary policy engineered by Mr. Shu. "All operations will remain normal," he said.

Mr. Shu's successor will come to the job at a particularly difficult time. Mr. Shu was Taiwan's representative in befriending Asian governments, most of which do not recognize Taiwan diplomatically, because of opposition from China. On Monday, Mr. Shu and his team were returning from a meeting of central bankers in Bali to discuss the region's economic turmoil.

The key Taiwan stock index finished up 73.80 points, at 8,782.09, after Mr. Liang and others reassured investors that Mr. Shu's policies would be maintained. The Taiwan dollar was little changed at 32.8200

to its U.S. counterpart.

At the Bali meeting, Mr. Shu promised to pump \$1.2 billion through Taiwanese bank branches to make loans to cash-strapped businesses in Southeast Asia that have been rocked in recent months by currency and credit turmoil.

Armed with \$83.5 billion in currency reserves, the central bank was able to spend billions of dollars to defend the Taiwan currency and make it more difficult for speculators to target it.

Two years ago, Mr. Shu and other bank officials addressed the kind of faulty banking practices that have gotten other Asian countries in trouble, leaving Taiwan with a healthy banking system and limited bad debts. (AP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

## Hopewell Trims Ambitions As S&P Cuts Bond Rating

Reuters

HONG KONG — Hopewell Holdings Ltd., derailed in Thailand and thwarted in Indonesia, was downgraded Tuesday by Standard & Poor's Corp., and its chief, Gordon Wu, said the company was not making any more big plans for the time being.

The credit-rating concern cut Hopewell's bond rating to BB from BBB-minus, a drop of two grades to what is essentially junk-bond status, citing "deterioration" in Hopewell's business environment.

"Basically, we are now in consolidation mode," Mr. Wu, Hopewell's managing director, said. "We did our last expansion in the early '90s."

Standard & Poor's said that events beyond Hopewell's control, particularly regional currency instability and additional debt-service obligations, had increased business risk and reduced its financial flexibility.

In an assessment that may be repeated in the case of several more Hong Kong companies, the agency added that regional currency instability had damaged the Hong Kong property market and generally made asset sales, a source of strength in the past, less reliable as a source of financial flexibility.

It may be difficult to imagine Mr. Wu, Hong Kong's legendary engineer of grand visions, retrenching, but that is what he says he is doing. Mr. Wu, who mesmerized insti-

tutional investors with his plans for infrastructure development in China when Deng Xiaoping opened the door to foreign investment in the 1980s, later undertook huge projects in Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines and South Asia.

In mid-January, however, the Indonesian government announced it was canceling 12 infrastructure development projects, and the company received a letter from Thailand confirming cancellation of its \$3.2 billion concession on a Bangkok railway project after six months of inactivity.

Mr. Wu still has plans for a commercial complex in Hong Kong's Wanchai district and is pushing to get permission for Hong Kong vehicles to drive unrestricted into China on Hopewell's Guangzhou-Shenzhen superhighway.

But he has washed his hands of grand plans for a bridge connecting Hong Kong with Macau and for power plants in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Hopewell is holding on to its Tanjung Jati power-plant project in Indonesia despite the wild gyrations of that country's currency, the rupiah, and Mr. Wu aims to assist Tung Chee-hwa, the chief executive of Hong Kong, in his drive to build 85,000 homes a year in Hong Kong to ease housing shortages.

But funds may be tight for a while.

"We will have to sweat it out for another 51 months," Mr. Wu said.



## Top Japan Banker Rules Out Quitting

Reuters

TOKYO — The chairman of the Federation of Bankers' Associations of Japan, Satoru Kishi, left, said Tuesday he would not resign over a bribery scandal involving bank inspectors at the Ministry of Finance. Mr. Kishi is president of Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd., which was implicated in the investigation Monday. "We are very sorry for causing trouble and are taking the situation seriously," he said.

## Samsung Unveils Car Line As Seoul Seeks Leaner Chaebol

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SEOUL — Samsung Motors Inc. launched its first line of car models Tuesday and said it expected to conclude talks with Ford Motor Co. about an injection of capital by September.

"We are seeking capital participation by Ford," said Lim Kyung Choon, chairman of Samsung Motors.

Samsung Motors, a unit of Samsung Group, unveiled four models Tuesday based on Nissan Motor Co.'s Maxima sedans. Nissan worked with Samsung to develop the models, which will sell beginning in March at prices ranging from 14.4 million won (\$8,860) to 28.85 million won.

The company's plans come as the government warned conglomerates,

or chaebol, to slim down to five or six core units and spin off the others.

"Businessmen who make profits will be treated as patriots, but those who cannot should be weeded out to lessen the burden on the people," President-elect Kim Dae Jung said.

Meanwhile, the International Monetary Fund on Tuesday approved the disbursement of a further \$2 billion in rescue funds for South Korea, the Finance Ministry said.

The disbursement was the fifth tranche of \$21 billion in IMF loans pledged as the core of a \$57 billion loan arranged in December.

Despite the IMF's help and government pledges of reform, foreign investors are still bailing out of the country and domestic companies are struggling to repay debt.

(Reuters, AFP)

## Computer Crimestoppers Look for Clues in Reuters Case

By Sharon Walsh and Robert O'Harrow Jr.  
Washington Post Service

NEW YORK — The U.S. federal investigation of whether individuals connected with Reuters Holdings PLC stole proprietary data from its arch rival news service, Bloomberg LP, has sounded a new alarm on computer crime.

Prosecutors are looking into whether Reuters Analytics Inc., a subsidiary of Reuters in Stamford, Connecticut, induced a consultant to provide information to Reuters that is available to Bloomberg subscribers, in violation of the subscription agreement with Bloomberg.

The Reuters investigation illus-

trates a looming problem for companies rushing to make information available on the World Wide Web and other easily accessible computer networks. Competitors can analyze vast amounts of data they get from computers to discern patterns, long-term plans and even analytical models of companies. And because U.S. companies spend much more on research and development than foreign firms, such information is a prime target for international spies.

Some experts fear the use of computers by white-collar criminals will mushroom in the coming years.

"The big spectacular crimes haven't been committed yet," said Bruce Schneier, president of Min-

neapolis-based Counterpane Systems, which provides computer security for many large companies. "We haven't seen terrorism attack the computer network or people blowing up brokers' terminals or putting in a virus so they give the wrong information."

Recent instances of white-collar crimes using computers include:

• A software engineer working for a subcontractor to Intel Corp. was convicted of illegally downloading secret data about the computer giant's plans for the Pentium processor that was worth from \$10 million to \$20 million. Authorities said the engineer, William Gaed, also videotaped information on his computer screen and planned to sell the tapes

to a competitor. Mr. Gaed was sentenced to 33 months in prison.

• A Manhattan man was charged in November with sabotaging the computer network of Forbes Inc., the magazine publisher. The man, a former Forbes computer technician, allegedly caused a massive crash of the company's computer network, resulting in damages of more than \$100,000.

• Last year, a California man stole 100,000 names, logons, credit card numbers and other data from Internet service providers in the San Diego area, the authorities said. Using a computer at the University of San Francisco, Carlos Salgado Jr. encoded the information and offered it for sale on the Internet. He was

caught in an FBI sting operation and was sentenced to 30 months in prison last month.

Law enforcement officials are watching the Reuters investigation closely, in part to see if it is a rare instance in which company officials participated in or condoned corporate espionage. Corporate spying is usually the work of individuals.

Software developers, responding to the wishes of corporate customers, also sometimes cut corners on security measures to keep costs down, said Donn Parker, a security specialist at SRI Consulting in Menlo Park, California. He added that companies also want to make computer systems as easy to use as possible for employees.

## SPY: High-Tech Espionage Is Booming as the Nightmare of the Information Age

Continued from Page 1

China, Japan, France and other countries.

"We're seeing more and more cases," said William Perez, acting chief of the FBI's financial crimes unit. "A country like the United States is a very juicy target" because of the prominence of its high-technology companies, he said.

The Internet arouses the greatest fear because it gives skilled hackers the possibility of entering untold databases with anonymity, often from far-off locations where there are no statutes against computer crimes.

In 1994, a group of Russian hackers stole codes and passwords from corporate customers of Citibank and transferred \$10 million to overseas accounts. Six Russians were extradited and pleaded guilty to computer fraud in federal court in New York. Citibank said it recovered all but \$400,000 of the money.

"The fundamental change is networking," said Mike McConnell, former head of U.S. military intelligence during the Gulf War who is in charge of business intelligence at the consulting firm of Booz, Allen & Hamilton. "Everyone is riding the same physical lines."

Mr. McConnell advises companies to erect a network of defenses including data encryption, use of hard-to-crack passwords and monitored firewalls to separate publicly accessible Web sites from sensitive internal databases. Citibank, for example, reacted by requiring its corporate customers to encrypt their on-line funds transfer requests and to replace their chosen passwords with passwords created by a computer-chip card.

In spite of the Internet's fearsome potential, the biggest source of espionage involves an inside source — a disgruntled employee, a consultant or contract worker or even a

planted worker. The insider "is the one who has the most knowledge of the system, and the most access," said Mr. Perez of the FBI.

Last year, two representatives of Yuen Fong Paper Co. of Taiwan met with an information broker and a scientist from Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. in an alleged attempt to obtain confidential data about the pharmaceutical company's top-selling cancer drug, Taxol. FBI agents videotaped the meeting and arrested the two representatives, who are currently being tried in U.S. federal court in Philadelphia.

Corporate espionage is not con-

fined to the United States. In late 1995, the British-Norwegian engineering group Kvaerner decided to close the office of its British subsidiary Davy International in Poole, England, only to see an Austrian rival, VAI GmbH, open a Poole office and recruit several former Davy executives.

Kvaerner's suspicions of foul play deepened when it lost a contract for £1 billion (\$1.64 billion) to build a steel plant in Saudi Arabia to VAI in April 1996. The company obtained a court order and found more than 2,000 Davy documents at VAI's office. In August, Britain's High Court

found VAI guilty of contempt and fined it £125,000 for destroying documents in the case. Kvaerner also is seeking civil damages in a case expected to be decided next year.

Law-enforcement and security experts say many companies have become vulnerable to theft by relying on consultants, contract workers or outside companies to maintain and operate their computers.

"You wouldn't leave your children with him, you wouldn't give him the keys to your house," Mr. Blaksley said. "But you let him into the epicenter of the business — at night."

## INDONESIA: Suharto Dismisses Head of Central Bank

Continued from Page 1

Mr. Suharto, Siti Hardjanti Rukmana, known as "Tutut," are the main backers of the idea of a Hong Kong-style "currency board" that would strip the central bank of its power to control monetary policy and peg the rupiah to the dollar.

Some analysts have seen the currency-board idea simply as a vindictive effort on the part of the Suharto children to wrest economic policy from the central bank.

"Sudradjat had become a voice of independence," said Eugene Galbraith, the global research director for ABN-AMRO Asia Ltd. in Hong Kong and a specialist on Indonesia. "I think this is childish and simple vindictiveness," he said of Mr. Sudradjat's firing.

Analysts said it was unusual for Mr. Suharto to change a top official before the end of a term. The entire government lineup is expected to change next month after Mr. Suharto is re-elected by a consultative assembly to his seventh five-year term as president. Mr. Suharto could have

waited three more weeks to replace the central bank governor as part of a normal cabinet reshuffle, they said.

To remove him now, analysts said, indicated Mr. Suharto's extreme displeasure with the central bank chief and with the bank's inability to halt the plunge of the currency. The currency ended in local trading at 9,400 to the U.S. dollar Tuesday. Before the currency crisis hit in mid-1997, a dollar only bought about 2,300 rupiah.

Analysts said Mr. Suharto's action also indicated a victory of the so-called economic nationalists and the powerful Suharto children over the Western-educated technocrats who have been in charge of economic policy.

The currency-board idea has exposed that fissure. Most technocrats, including officials in the Finance Ministry, oppose the idea, preferring instead to follow the IMF prescriptions, including breaking up some of the country's monopoly interests — which would directly affect the Suharto children's businesses — and ending subsidies to pet projects.

But those pushing the idea of a currency board and a rupiah peg to the dollar say that the IMF package has so far failed to reverse Indonesia's economic decline and is imposing conditions that are too stringent while opening up the country to foreign domination.

As the currency has continued to weaken against the dollar, Mr. Suharto has apparently lost patience and now appears to be siding with his children and others in the economic-nationalist camp arguing for a quick fix to the country's mounting problems.

Another sign of the ascendancy of the nationalist camp has been the emergence this week of the research and technology minister, B.J. Habibie, as the leading candidate to be the country's next vice president and likely successor to the 76-year-old Mr. Suharto. Mr. Habibie is known for his advocacy of costly megaprojects, such as a domestic aircraft industry, designed to pull forth Indonesia into the ranks of developed countries through high-technology ventures.

## Investor's Asia

Hong Kong Hang Seng	Singapore Straits Times	Tokyo Nikkei 225
15500	2000	19000
14000	1800	18000
12500	1600	17000
11000	1400	16000
9500	1200	15000
8000	1000	14000
1997	1997	1997
1998	1998	1998
Exchange Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close
Hong Kong Hang Seng	10,232.09	10,124.03
Singapore Straits Times	1,486.90	1,481.56
Sydney All Ordinaries	2,657.90	2,621.20
Tokyo Nikkei 225	16,790.71	16,775.52
Kuala Lumpur Composite	660.83	661.94
Bangkok SET	502.53	484.08
Seoul Composite Index	471.73	476.98
Taipei Stock Market Index	8,782.09	8,708.29
Manila PSE	2,059.58	2,022.73
Jakarta Composite Index	472.21	457.71
Wellington NZSE-40	2,286.99	2,290.39
Bombay Sensitive Index	3,413.36	3,449.77
Source: Telekurs		International Herald Tribune

## Very briefly:

• China International Trust & Investment Corp., Beijing's flagship investment vehicle, had an operating profit of 2.85 billion yuan (\$344 million) in 1997, up 15 percent from a year earlier, the state-run newspaper People's Daily said. Including extraordinary items such as asset sales, CITIC's total profit for the year was 11.20 billion yuan.

• Hong Leong Properties Bhd., a Malaysian property developer, said net profit for the six months ended Dec. 31 dropped 55 percent, to 36.5 million ringgit (\$9.5 million).

• Vietnam tightened regulations for companies with foreign-currency revenue and said all surplus amounts would have to be changed into nonconvertible dong. The move came a day after Vietnam devalued its currency by 5 percent.

• LG Chemical Ltd. of South Korea signed a memorandum of understanding with Dow Chemical Co. to set up a \$250 million joint venture.

• TDK Corp. had record quarterly group sales and profit in the quarter ended in December. TDK, a maker of magnetic tapes, said its group sales rose 16 percent, to a record 190 billion yen (\$1.5 billion), in the quarter. Group net profit grew 42 percent, to a record 18.48 billion yen.

• Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. cut its forecast for parent-company pretax profit for the current year, ending in March, to 120 billion yen from 160 billion yen. It projects its revenue at 2.7 trillion yen, down from 2.8 trillion yen.

• Crown Ltd., the owner of Australia's biggest casino, is considering selling and renting back the property. Crown made the announcement a day after it posted a half-year loss of 39.8 million Australian dollars (\$26.3 million).

• Air New Zealand's net profit for the last six months of 1997 rose 6.9 percent from a year earlier, to 82 million New Zealand dollars (\$48 million).

• Westpac Banking Corp. said its exposure to Asia was 9.5 billion Australian dollars as of the end of last week. On Monday, Standard & Poor's Corp. said it had affirmed Westpac's ratings and said Westpac had an exposure to Asia of 11.4 billion dollars as of Dec. 31.

AP, Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP, AFP

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## WORLD ROUNDUP

### Edgy England Wins

**CRICKET** England nervously garnered the 38 runs it needed for victory Tuesday on the final day of the third test against West Indies in Trinidad, winning by three wickets to level the series, 1-1. Curtly Ambrose, the West Indies' fast bowler, took three English wickets in the morning session, but Mark Butcher remained calm as he hit 24 not out to guide England to his target of 225 runs. (Reuters)

### Bwalya Ends With a Goal

**SOCCER** Kalusha Bwalya, 34, of Zambia ended his 13-year international career Tuesday. He scored as Zambia beat Mozambique, 3-1, in an African Nations Cup match in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso. Despite the victory, Zambia finished behind Egypt and Morocco in Group D and was eliminated, leading to Bwalya's retirement. In Ouagadougou, Moustaфа El Hadji scored with a spectacular bicycle kick in the last minute to give Morocco a 1-0 victory over Egypt. (Reuters)

### Record Pay for Randle

**FOOTBALL** John Randle became the highest-paid defensive player in the National Football League when he agreed to stay with the Minnesota Vikings for \$32.5 million over five years. The contract for the All-Pro defensive lineman, the latest beneficiary of the NFL's new multi-billion television contract, includes a \$10 million signing bonus, surpassing the previous team-record \$6 million the Vikings gave to offensive tackle Todd Stansbury last week. Randle twice turned down offers believed to be in the \$30 million range from the Vikings. The Miami Dolphins were among four teams that had made contract proposals since free agency opened Friday, and Randle flew to Miami on Monday. (AP)

## Open Letter to Ronaldo: Learn From Olympians

By Rob Hughes  
International Herald Tribune

**N**AGANO, Japan — Dear Ronaldo: There is not a lot of soccer talk here, but your hat trick Sunday against Lecce strikes the same chord as some highly impressive winners at these Winter Olympics.

Like you, there are men and women here who are on top of their sporting world, and who know what it is to come through a period of doubt, to summon superlative performances when it matters and when the cold wind of criticism is at its height.

No doubt there are friendly hands, rather than daggers, on your broad back now that the so-called Ronaldo goal drought has been laid to rest. Maybe even Massimo Moratti, your club president at Internazionale di Milan, has kinder words now than last month when he broadcast that Ronaldo has a problem.

Tell *Il Presidente* at once, while you are back in his favor, that the problem is human. Suggest to him that a fellow of 21 simply cannot carry a team every week of every year, cannot serve three masters — Inter, Brazil and the omnipresent Nike — through 90 performances annually, and through endless banquets, interviews, training camps.

If he refuses to understand, ask Moratti to tune into the Winter Olympics, to witness the depths through which some of the finest competitors are plunged. Point out that the real triumph is to summon ascendancy from despair, to defy if necessary whole nations of doubters.

In the past week we have seen Hermann Maier crash on Mount Kitzbühel. The downhill was so spectacular it will be a defining moment of the 18th Winter Olympics.

From such a fall you have a choice: You lie down or you get back up and outski the rest of the world.

In your case, at least until some thug breaks your leg, the dilemma of showing what you are made of in the moments that will be your judge are less dramatic, but just as deep.

You know, I know, and even Moratti knows, that your time is the summer, your goal the World Cup, and if he does not like it he can sell you back at huge profit to Barcelona. Agents are working on it.

But, Ronaldo, there has been a greater example of the human spirit of a champion and a patriot here. Coming from Brazil, you might never have contemplated skiing down a mountain, much less jumping off one. Masahiko Harada does it for a living. He is the Japanese ski jumper who has lived with a nation of 125 million on his back since his failure cost Japan the team gold medal at the Lillehammer Games four years ago.

It was akin to you missing a penalty in the World Cup final. The journalists, the masses, and probably even Harada's parents thought his nerve failed him, failed the people. It is irrational, and you in your short, scintillating journey to stardom, know the feeling.

Two days before these Games began, Harada made a crucial decision. Initially, he had decided to shield his wife and two children from the tensions in Nagano but, seeing the fervor rise, he called them and said, "Please come; what is happening here will be only once in a lifetime."

In the individual jumps Harada flopped on the short hill. Choker! they cried. On the large hill he fell short on his first jump, leapt to an unsurpassed 136 meters on the second, and took bronze. But in the team event Tuesday, he had an unbearably short 79.5 meters first jump but then, at last, 137 meters in the second round.

In the falling snow, the man had risen. Gold was assured by his younger twin teammates. A few days ago the cynics doubted him; on Tuesday there was Japanese joy for the tearful, human, fallible athlete who conquered.

Your turn may follow. The wrath of a mere club president is nothing compared to the expectation of the whole population of Brazil. Maier came back, Harada came back, and though your "fall" has been shallow by comparison, go take your cue from these brave warriors. The world is yours, rise to it.

Rob Hughes is on the staff of *The Times of London*.



Houston's Charles Barkley, left, getting beamed on a rebound as the Clippers' Brent Barry earned a foul.

## Kansas Ties for Title

The Associated Press

In Kansas Jayhawks' country, conference championships do not generate a whole lot of excitement. But low-key as the party might be, No. 4 Kansas can celebrate another one.

Eric Chenoweth scored 15 points, picking up the slack for foul-plagued Raef LaFrentz, as Kansas clinched a tie

### COLLEGE BASKETBALL

for its seventh Big 12 title in eight years with an 81-72 victory Monday night over Colorado.

The Jayhawks (28-3, 12-1) can claim the league title outright with a victory Saturday at home in Lawrence against Iowa State — a team they beat by 21 points in Ames, Iowa, on Feb. 4.

"I told the team to feel good about it," the Kansas coach, Roy Williams, said. "We earned our share of our fourth in a row and on Saturday we have a chance to earn it all."

Kansas has claimed at least a share of the past four Big 12 titles and has a 58-game home winning streak.

Chenoweth, who filled in for LaFrentz when the star center went down with a broken hand on Dec. 26, found himself in that role again Monday night. After scoring 12 points in the first half, LaFrentz sat out for 13 minutes after committing his fourth foul with 16:38 remaining.

The Jayhawks beat Colorado (12-11, 6-7) for the 18th straight time and improved to 7-0 since LaFrentz returned from his injury on Jan. 24.

Kenny Price led Colorado with 23 points.

## Surprising Nets Win 5th Straight

The Associated Press

The biggest surprise about the New Jersey Nets this season is not the fact that they are playing so well. It's that they're winning with forward Kendall Gill having a superb season.

Gill showed some signs of his old self Monday night by scoring 17 points and making

### NBA ROUNDUP

six steals to lead the Nets to a 103-92 home victory over the Milwaukee Bucks, who were plagued by turnovers.

The victory was the fifth straight for New Jersey (31-21), which is challenging for the lead in the Atlantic Division.

"It was great to see Kendall come out and play well and get back into form," the Nets' rookie forward Keith Van Horn said. "When Kendall plays well, we play well. That's no secret."

Coming into this season, Gill could always be counted on for double figures. He had scored in double figures in his last 108 games, but in the last 37 games, he was short of double figures 14 times.

"I have been trying to be more aggressive in the second half of the season and hope the other guys can pick up on that and follow my lead," said Gill, who is averaging 14 points this season, seven less than last year, when he led the team in scoring. "Tonight everyone got involved, and that's what makes us a good team."

New Jersey is now just 2½ games behind first-place Miami in the division.

The Nets forced 10 of the Bucks' season-high 30 turnovers in building a 34-15 lead after the first quarter.

Milwaukee never got closer than seven points after that.

The Bucks' coach, Chris Ford, could not explain his team's ball-handling problem.

"We just beat the Cleveland Cavaliers with the same group of people who played tonight and only had 11 turnovers," he said. "A lot of the turnovers were unforgotten, just careless possession of the ball."

The Bucks' woes came on a night when the team disclosed that point guard Terrell Brandon will have to wear a walking cast on his sprained left ankle for two weeks.

Sam Cassell and Van Horn each scored 18 points for the Nets. Glenn Robinson had 30 points and Allen added 24 for Milwaukee.

**Jazz 96, Hornets 90** Karl Malone had 23 points and 11 rebounds as Utah won its fifth straight. During the second quarter, the Jazz announced they had acquired the center Ronny Seikaly from the Orlando Magic for Greg Foster, Chris Morris and a 1998 first-round draft pick. Utah survived a big fourth quarter by Glen Rice, who scored 15 of his 30 points in the final 5:04.

**Magic 85, Hawks 81** Nick Anderson matched with a season-high with 28 points for visiting Orlando. Danny Schayes, who started in place of Seikaly, had 10 points and 13 rebounds for the Magic. Steve Smith led the Hawks with 22 points.

**Rockets 121, Clippers 99** Hakeem Olajuwon had 21 points and 20 rebounds in Houston's victory in Los Angeles. Clyde Drexler added 25 points and Charles Barkley had 22 points for the Rockets. Drexler also had five assists to join three other National Basketball Association players with 6,000 assists and 20,000 points in a career.

## SCOREBOARD

### BASKETBALL

#### NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE			
ATLANTIC DIVISION			
Miami	31	18	64
New York	31	21	59
New Jersey	31	21	57
Washington	29	23	52
Orlando	25	27	48
Boston	23	29	45
Philadelphia	15	33	31
CENTRAL DIVISION			
Indiana	30	16	70
Chicago	28	15	71
Cleveland	28	21	58
Atlanta	20	23	54
Cleveland	28	23	54
Albuquerque	25	26	49
Detroit	22	27	46
Toronto	11	40	26
WESTERN CONFERENCE			
NORTHWEST DIVISION			
Utah	30	15	70
San Antonio	30	16	69
Minnesota	28	21	57
Phoenix	28	23	54
Vancouver	14	37	25
Dallas	10	41	19
Denver	5	45	10
PACIFIC DIVISION			
Seattle	30	12	74
L.A. Lakers	30	14	71

### MAJOR COLLEGE SCORES

New Mexico 75, UNLV 66  
Texas Christian 79, Southern Methodist 70  
West Virginia 71, Marshall 58  
Syracuse 69, Villanova 64  
Xavier 76, George Washington 65

### THE AP TOP 25

Top 25 teams in Associated Press' men's basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Feb. 15, total points based on 25 points for first-place vote through one point for 25th-place vote, and previous rankings:

	Rank	Points	Previous
1. North Carolina (68)	36-1	1,748	1
2. Duke	23-2	1,440	2
3. Arizona (2)	22-3	1,432	3
4. Kansas	22-4	1,387	4
5. Purdue	22-4	1,379	5
6. Utah	21-2	1,321	6
7. Connecticut	22-4	1,306	7
8. Kentucky	22-4	1,182	7
9. Princeton	20-1	1,149	10
10. Stanford	21-3	1,128	14
11. New Mexico	19-3	1,109	11
12. UCLA	19-3	1,102	9
13. South Carolina	19-4	886	15
14. Michigan	18-5	792	13
15. Mississippi	17-5	732	18
16. Arkansas	20-5	650	12
17. Cincinnati	19-5	576	19
18. Massachusetts	19-6	489	20

### TRANSITIONS

**BASEBALL**  
ATLANTA — Agreed to terms with INF Shawn Dunston on 1-year contract.  
NATIONAL LEAGUE  
ATLANTA — Agreed to terms with C Eddie Perez and RHP Paul Byrd on 1-year contracts.  
CINCINNATI — Agreed to terms with C Brook Foye on 1-year contract.  
HOUSTON — Agreed to terms with OF Carl Everett, SS Ricky Gutierrez, C Ramon Castro, C Mitch Meluskey, INF Carlos Guillen, INF Carlos Hernandez, OF Richard Hidalgo and RHP Freddy Garcia on 1-year contracts.  
**BASKETBALL**  
NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION  
UTAH — Traded C Greg Miller, F Chris Morris and 1998 1st-round draft pick to Orlando for C Rony Selby.  
**FOOTBALL**  
NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
ARIZONA — Signed CB J.S. McClellan to 3-year contract.  
BALTIMORE — Re-signed DT Larry Webster to 2-year contract.  
CHICAGO — Signed FB Ty Hollock to 3-year contract.  
**HOCKEY**  
NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE  
FLORIDA — Recalled G Todd MacDonald from New Haven AHL.  
CALIFORNIA  
OREGON — Suspended G Mike Smith from football team for his involvement in bar fight.

### CRICKET

**WEST INDIES VS. ENGLAND**  
THIRD TEST, FINAL DAY  
TUESDAY IN PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD  
West Indies: 199 and 219  
England: 145 and 225-7  
England won third test by three wickets. Six-match series are 1-1.

### SOCCER

**AFRICAN NATIONS' CUP**  
BURUNDI VS. SOUTH AFRICA  
FIRST ROUND  
BURUNDI 1, SOUTH AFRICA 0  
Burundi scored through F. Ndayishimiye in the 11th minute.  
SOUTH AFRICA VS. EGYPT  
FIRST ROUND  
SOUTH AFRICA 0, EGYPT 1  
Egypt scored through M. El Ghazal in the 11th minute.

### DENNIS THE MENACE

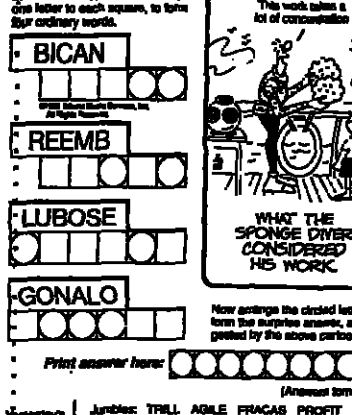


"I FINALLY FOUND OUT HOW MANY COOKIES ARE TOO MANY."

### JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Paul Arnold and Mike Aronson  
The words take a lot of scrambling.  
BICAN  
REEMB  
LUBOSE  
GONALO  
Print answer here: \_\_\_\_\_  
Answers: JUMBLE: BICAN, REEMB, LUBOSE, GONALO. (Answers continue)

### BEETLE BAILEY



ONE LAST QUESTION... HOW DO YOU SPELL ETCETERA?

### BLONDIE



HE ALWAYS CALLS FOR ME WHEN THERE'S AN EMERGENCY

### PEANUTS



HERE'S MY IDEA... SPIKE IS A FRIEND OF MICKY MOUSE, RIGHT?

### GARFIELD



KNOW WHY CATS LOVE SLIPING ON ICE?

### WIZARD OF ID



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### NON SEQUITUR



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### CALVIN AND HOBBES



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and 10 of the 10.

King a 10-10 first quarter.

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#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	10	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	11	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	12	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	13	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	14	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	15	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	16	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	17	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	18	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	19	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	20	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	21	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	22	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	23	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	24	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	25	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	26	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	27	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	28	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	29	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	30	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	31	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	32	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	33	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	34	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	35	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	36	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
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#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	46	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
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#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	48	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
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#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	50	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	51	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	52	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
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#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	54	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	55	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	56	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	57	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	58	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	59	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	60	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	61	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	62	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	63	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	64	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	65	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	66	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	67	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	68	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
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#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	83	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	84	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	85	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	86	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	87	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	88	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	89	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	90	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	91	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	92	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	93	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	94	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	95	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	96	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	97	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	98	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	99	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	
#	EMERSON US VALUE Fd	17.66	100	IN HIGH YIELD WORLD FUND 31.12.97	

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1998

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February 17, 1998

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## In Victory, 'Smiling Harada' Weeps - Japan's Ski Jump Hero at Last

By Christopher Clarey  
International Herald Tribune

HAKUBA, Japan — Masahiko Harada was famous for smiling when he lost. On Tuesday, he cried when he won.

Harada, known in Japan and everywhere else that ski jumping matters as "Smiling Harada," was not the only hero of Japan's snow-coated and emotional victory in the Olympic team jumping competition, but he was the hero who took the good news the hardest.

He was in tears as soon as he had jumped 137 meters (450 feet) in the second and final round — to tie the hill record set earlier in the run by his teammate, Takanobu Okabe — sobbing on his teammates' shoulders. And when a broadcast team pointed a camera in his direction for his reaction to the 100th gold medal in Japan's long and not always illustrious Winter and Summer Olympic history, Harada was far beyond words again. He cried his best, but tears were all he could produce.

Outside the Hakuba Ski Jumping Stadium, his fellow citizens did the talking for him.

"All of Japan's people were hoping for success in these Olympics, but they were especially hoping for success in the ski jumping," explained Jiri Lemori, a middle-aged man from Tokyo who braved a snowstorm without a ticket for the chance to get close to something memorable.

Japan's fourth gold medal in these Olympics will be difficult to forget. Heading into the second and final round, the heavily favored Japanese were lying in fourth place, largely because Harada had recorded one of the day's shortest jumps (79.5 meters) and added a few more bones to his closetful of skeletons.

But the second and final round was the equivalent of spring cleaning as Japan got superb performances and two hill records from its four jumpers to leap into first place and win its first Olympic team jumping title with a total of 933 points.

The silver medal went to Germany, the defending Olympic champion, with 897.4 points and the bronze to Austria, the first-round leader, and its new star, Andreas Widhoelzl — who soared to 136.5 meters — with 881.5.

In Lillehammer, Norway, in 1994,

Harada lost his nerve and form on the final jump of the competition. Needing only an average effort, he delivered the shortest jump of the entire competition and Japan settled for silver. He faltered again under pressure on the last jump of the normal hill event here on Feb. 11, blowing his lead and a medal.

After he flopped again in Tuesday's first round in admittedly difficult conditions — heavy snow and poor visibility — Harada was beginning to look like a goat of Olympian proportions.

"After my first jump, I started thinking about Lillehammer again," Harada said later in a news conference, in which he only broke down once. "I honestly thought the same thing could happen again."

But this time, Harada was not the final jumper for his team, even though he had been lobbying the national coach, Manabu Ono, for the honor. Instead, Ono wisely picked Kazuyoshi Funaki, the phenom who won the large hill event on Sunday.

Japan's first jumper of the final round was Okabe, who set the new hill record of 137 meters and immediately put his

nation back in front.

"I jumped beyond my own strength, and there was one person who made me feel I had to do the best," said Okabe, delivering the best backhanded compliment of these Games.

"That was Mr. Harada on the first jump," he said.

After Hiroya Saito had maintained Japan's lead and Harada had seized a piece of his younger teammate's new hill record, the final cycle of jumpers began. The Japanese jumped in 13th position all day, which was ominous stuff to Americans but not to them — 13 has no negative connotations here. When Funaki finally took flight in the heavy snow that had delayed the start of the event by 30 minutes, he needed only 90.4 points to give Japan a piece of the gold.

With his ski tips practically behind his ears, the 22-year-old from Sapporo did much better than that.

After his 126-point final effort, Japan's margin of victory was more than 35 points, and when the results flashed on the board, Funaki fell backward into the snow as his teammates dashed toward him and the crowd of about

40,000 Japanese in attendance set their own hill record for volume.

"The pressure was not tangible on the second jump, but I felt overwhelmed," Funaki said. "It was incredibly heavy."

In the 15 previous Winter Olympics to which Japan sent a team, it won a total of three gold medals. In Nagano it has exceeded that total in just 10 days, getting victories from the team and Funaki in ski jumping, from Hirofumi Shimizu in the men's 500-meter speed skating event and, most surprisingly, from Tetsuya Satoya in the women's moguls.

As of Tuesday morning, their four golds put them ahead of such traditionally successful winter nations as Austria, the Netherlands, Finland, Switzerland, France, Italy and the United States.

That Japan should overachieve is no shock. Olympic host nations often improve their medal counts. France won three golds and nine medals in Albertville in 1992 after winning one gold and one bronze in 1988. Norway went from an already impressive nine golds and 20 medals in 1992 to an even more impressive 10 golds and 26 medals in 1994 in Lillehammer. The only recent case of

a winter host freezing came in 1988 in Calgary, where the Canadians did not win a single gold.

But with five days remaining, the Japanese already have saved face and surpassed expectations, which were legitimately high in the nation's two best winter events of speed skating and ski jumping.

Japan as an unusual structure for many of its top winter athletes. As in professional life here, the corporation is often at the heart of the matter. Top speed skaters and ski jumpers, for example, often hold ceremonial posts in companies, which recruit them after they complete their studies and give them salaries that usually permit them to train full-time.

This was Japan's fourth gold medal of the Games. Four is the unlucky number in Japan — the word for four here, *shi*, also means death — but Jiri Lemori did not seem very concerned about his own nation's impending misfortune as he celebrated outside Hakuba Ski Jumping Stadium.

"The Americans only have two gold medals?" he said. "Really? Only two?"

## It's 'a Revolution,' As Speed Skaters Shatter Records

By Ira Berkow  
New York Times Service

NAGANO, Japan — On the eve of the men's 10,000-meter Olympic speed skating race Tuesday, the defending champion and world-record holder, the retired Boss Koss — or, according to his driver's license, Johann Olav Koss — made a prediction.

"I think Gianni Romme will almost have to break his leg not to win," said Koss, who was calling the race here

## SPEED SKATING

here for an Australian television station. He also prognosticated that Romme would break his own record of 13 minutes, 30.55 seconds, set in the 1994 Winter Games in Norway, Koss's homeland.

Koss is now a medical student in Brisbane, Australia, a year-and-a-half away from completing his studies.

Gianni Petrus Cornelis Romme, a strapping 6-foot, 2.5-inch (1.9-meter), 195-pound (88-kilogram) Dutchman, not only won the race, but indeed broke Koss's record with a time of 13 minutes, 15.33 seconds — a stupendous 15.22 seconds better than Koss's mark.

Not only that, but the man Romme was paired with, fellow Dutchman Bob de Jong — each of the 16 contestants in the race went off in pairs over the 400-meter oval — decided that two can play this record-shattering game, and swept across the finish line in 13:25.76, 10.43 seconds behind Romme.

That was five seconds ahead of Koss's 1994 record. Koss, who was seated in the broadcast booth, thrust his fist in the air in a gracious gesture of congratulations to both the gold and silver medalists.

Rintje Ritsma, yet a third Dutchman, took the bronze medal and surpassed Koss's record, with a time of 13:28.19. Barteld Kerkhove of Belgium also broke Koss's record, but he could only muster a 13:29.69, and was relegated to fourth place.

"This is great," said Koss. "We've seen some of most fantastic races in history."

He seemed kind to a fault, especially since his sport has seen a remarkable technological advancement in the last

few years — the clap skate, which allows the skater to lift off the heel from the blade while taking a stride.

"We're seeing a revolution in the sport," said Koss. "And you don't compare old time with new times. The skaters today look exactly the same, except they go faster."

Romme agreed that one should not compare the new skates with, as he termed them, "normal skates."

"But," he said, "there is a new dimension to the sport. In years to come, skaters will be even faster. This is only the beginning."

There was some concern among skating aficionados that the clap skate would not only turn results in their head, but it would also affect the aesthetics.

"I don't want to see technology take away from the quiet and fine coordination, which is the special beauty of speed skating," said Gerard Kewkers, a coach for the United States national speed skating team.

The grace and beauty is still there — a difference of 15 seconds over a period of 13-plus minutes hardly seems a crucial change in those elements. Just the sound of the skates is slightly different now.

In Lillehammer, Norway, in 1994, Koss won three gold medals and set world records in the 1500-meter race, the 5,000 meters and the 10,000 meters.

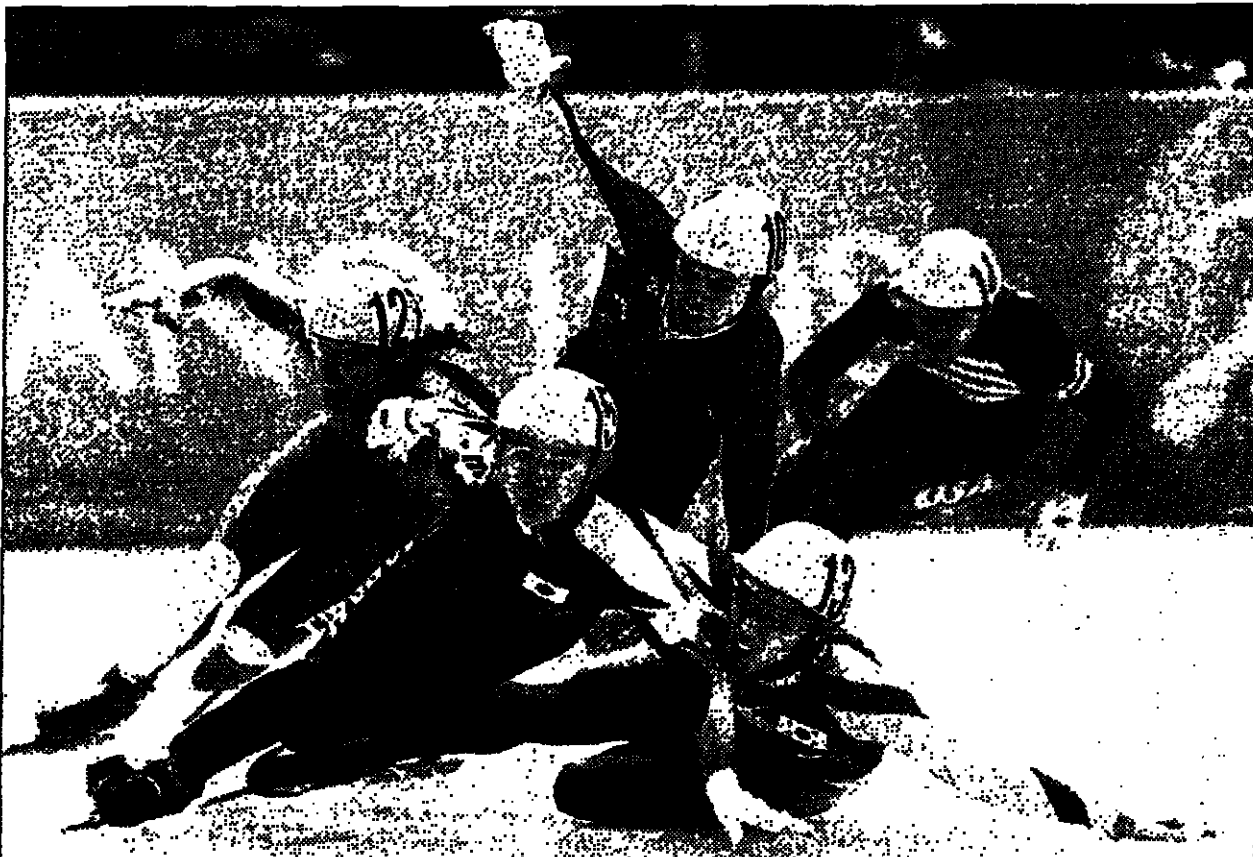
In the first two of those events, his world record had been broken prior to the Olympics. Romme broke it last December in a World Cup event. Each of 5,000-meter medalists in these Games, including Romme, broke his record.

Koss's 1,500-meter record was topped two years ago. The last to surpass it, Aasne Sordal of Norway, did it last Thursday, to win the gold.

All of those record breakers have worn clap skates.

Romme's previous best in the 10,000 was 13:46.44, so he wiped that out by more than 31 seconds.

The best American finish in the 10,000 meters was by K. C. Boutette of the United States, who came in at 13:44.03, setting a record for Americans. Boutette also wears the new clap skates.



Chae Ji Hoon of South Korea, right foreground, falling and creating a pileup in the semifinal Tuesday of the men's 1,000-meter short-track speed skating. Andrew Gabel, an American, came from behind to win the race.

## In This Korean War, Someone Won

South Holds Off China as North and U.S. Fade in Women's Semifinal

By Kevin Sullivan  
Washington Post Service

NAGANO, Japan — The four main adversaries in the Korean War of 1950-1953 battled again Tuesday night, 45 years after the cease-fire, and the Americans got blown away.

North Korea, South Korea, China and the United States raced head-to-head in short-track speed skating, an Olympic

## SHORT-TRACK SPEED SKATING

sport that is part roller derby and part rugby — a confusing clash of 16 tough women in helmets slicing around a small rink and speeding each other along with good stiff shoves.

Olympic historians say it was a first: Never before had those four nations faced off in a single competition.

The event was a semifinal of the women's 3,000-meter relay, a four-minute sprint between four teams of four skaters each who push and lean and fight for position while sprinting on skates.

Unlike the Korean War, which was fought essentially to a stalemate with China and North Korea on one side and the United States and South Korea on the other, this race had a winner.

South Korea won big, and China finished second, more than a full lap ahead of the last-place Americans. The North Koreans, who invaded the South in June 1950, were not much of a factor this time, finishing a harmless third.

Just seeing athletes from those four countries on the ice together, racing

shoulder to shoulder with thousands of supporters cheering, brought out the dreamer in everyone.

"It's a coincidence, but it's symbolic: Let's make peace," said Choe Kwan Ik, a spokesman for the Chosen Federation, an influential organization of North Koreans in Japan.

"We are fellow countrymen, sharing the tragedies and victories of the past, regardless of political systems," Choe said. "We share the same blood, the same culture."

Chun Kun Ho, a telecommunications executive from Seoul, was 2 years old when North Korean guerrillas killed his father in July 1950, a month after the war started. On Tuesday night, he sat with a large group of South Koreans, many waving both the South Korean and North Korean flags. In South Korea that could be a felony under South Korea's strict laws against supporting the North.

But to Chun, it seemed only natural: "I am really sorry that Korea is still the only country to be divided after the war. It is political; the people themselves don't feel they are enemies. I wish we could be one team."

The four nations that competed Tuesday do not do much of anything together. It took more than two years to get them to hold talks last December about formally ending the Korean War, which is still technically on because it ended with a cease-fire and not a peace treaty.

On Tuesday, China and South Korea went ahead from the start; the North Koreans faded, and the Americans were never a factor.

Short-track speed skating is vastly different from the long-track event. The longer track is about 122 meters (400 feet) long, and skaters cruise at nearly 65 kilometers (40 miles) per hour.

The short track is only 110 meters around. Skaters wear helmets and padded gloves because of the bumping and collisions in a sport known for its unpredictable and often chaotic nature. In the relay, the clock is not a factor: The first team across the finish line wins.

For many Koreans, from North and from South, it didn't seem to matter which team that was.

"This is not political; we're here to have fun," said S. J. Kim, an executive from Samsung who was leading a delegation of about 100 customers to the Olympics.

"We are from the same blood, so we might as well root for each other."

## ■ South Korea Wins Final

In the final of the relay, South Korea, the defending Olympic champion, edged China as both broke the world record. The Associated Press reported.

South Korea won in 4 minutes, 16.26 seconds to China's 4:16.383. Canada, the 1992 gold medalist, took the bronze in 4:21.205.

In the men's 1,000 meters, Kim Dong-Sung, the 1997 world champion from South Korea, trailed most of the race but stuck his skate blade across the finish line to edge Li Jiajun of China.

Kim was timed at 1:32.375 seconds to Li's 1:32.428. Eric Bedard of Canada was third in 1:32.661.

## Germans Rejoice After Sweeping Women's Event

By Bob Baum  
The Associated Press

HAKUBA, Japan — Under a cascade of snowflakes that fell like confetti, Katja Seizinger and her German teammates rejoiced on a mountainside far from home, hugging and waving their skirts and hurling bouquets to cheering spectators.

Seizinger won her second gold medal in as many days, but there was far more

## ALPINE SKIING

for her and her teammates to celebrate: Her nation had won its first sweep in an Olympic Alpine skiing event.

"That's why the joy," Seizinger said after leading the sweep Tuesday of the women's combined event.

"The head coach was nearly crying. It's such an unbelievable feeling. Four years ago, we saw the Norwegians do it" in the men's combined, "and now we are in the same position. You can't describe this feeling."

"Three Germans on the podium. It's unbelievable," said Martina Ertl, the silver medalist.

When the favorite in the event, Pernilla Wiberg of Sweden, slipped and fell five gates from the finish of the first of the day's two combined slalom runs, the way was cleared for the Germans.

"Sometimes," Seizinger said, "you need a little luck."

The snow Tuesday caused no problem for the short slalom race, though it fell in a thick, constant curtain through the two runs.

After Olympic organizers crammed three weather-delayed races into Monday's program, the Alpine competition is back on schedule.

The scene now shifts to Shiga Kogen 110 kilometers (70 miles) away for the giant slalom and slalom races. There, the incomparable Alberto Tomba of Italy will try to win a medal for an unprecedented fourth Olympic.

Seizinger, who had a 34-second lead over the second-place Wiberg after the combined downhill Monday, won the gold with an overall time of 2 minutes, 40.74 seconds.

Ertl, a favorite for the women's giant slalom Friday, was 18 behind the winner. Hilde Gerg overtook Stefanie Schuster of Austria on the final slalom run to take the bronze, her first Olympic medal, in 2:41.50.

Seizinger, whose first Olympic gold came in the 1994 downhill, won the downhill again Monday. Her combined victory 24 hours later made her the second woman ever to win three golds in Olympic Alpine skiing. Vreni Schneider of Switzerland won the slalom in 1988 and 1994 and the giant slalom in 1988.

But it was the German sweep, only the fourth by any country in Olympic Alpine skiing, that ignited the wild celebration.

First, there were hugs with the coaches. On the victory stand, all three medalists thrust their skirts into the air in jubilation, then hugged each other just before they were presented with flowers.

Afterward, they jumped off the stand and dashed toward the cheering crowd. Seizinger and Ertl hurried their bouquets to the spectators, many of them waving German flags. Gerg chose to go to the volunteers, throwing her flowers to them in a gesture of thanks.

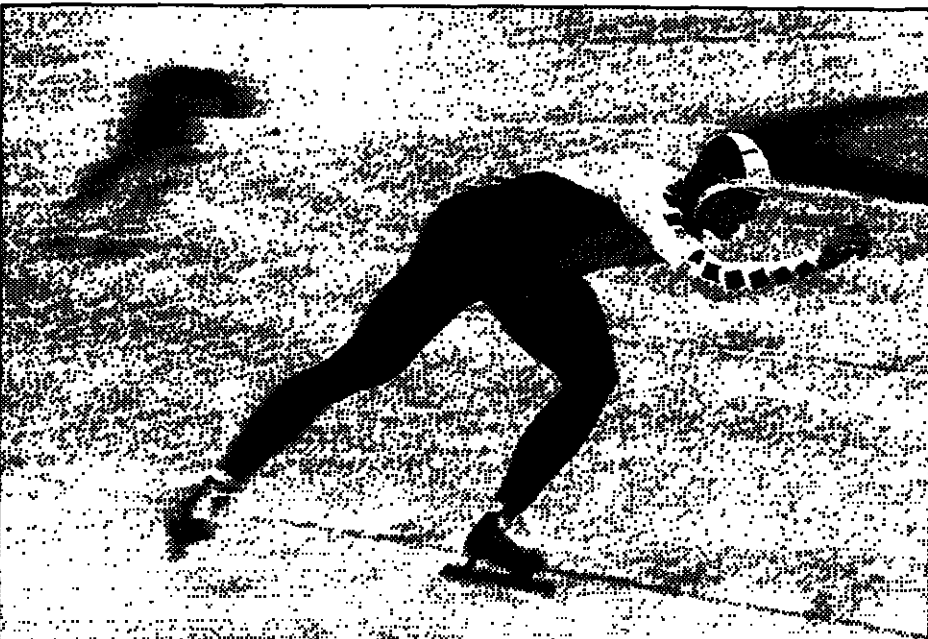
Wiberg, the silver medalist in the downhill Monday, gold medalist in the 1994 combined and gold medalist in the 1992 giant slalom, was the first down the slalom run, which was set on the steep lower face of Olympic Course I, site of the men's downhill.

Five gates from the finish, at the end of a series of quick turns, her skis sailed out from under her and she fell.

"I straddled a gate; that's a normal mistake in slalom," she said. "When I came down, I saw the finish line too early maybe."

While Wiberg had the bad luck, Seizinger has everything going for her after starting her Olympic experience in Nagano slowly with a disappointing sixth in the Super-G last week.

She will race in the giant slalom Friday giant slalom, but is not sure about the slalom on Thursday.



Rintje Ritsma of the Netherlands skating to bronze in the men's 10,000 meters.

## Fog Stops Men's 10-Kilometer Race

The Associated Press

NOZAWA ONSSEN, Japan — Barely able to see through the fog, the biathletes skied through swirling, slushy snow to the firing line. There they fumbled with their rifles and took uncertain aim at the small targets 50 meters away.

Finally, after 39½ minutes, a range official threw up his hands and called off the

## BIATHLON

10-kilometer sprint — the first time since 1972 an Olympic biathlon competition had been halted by bad weather.

One strong medal contender, Frode Andersen of Norway, had missed four of five targets during his first shooting.

The race will be restarted Wednesday. Heavy snowfall had earlier marred the women's 15-kilometer sprint at this ski resort known for its rapidly changing weather.

"Point No. 1 is to have equal conditions for all athletes," said Yanez Vodcar, chairman of the technical delegation for the Inter-

national Biathlon Union. He said fog density at the shooting range varied too much to give all an even chance of hitting the targets.

Sixteen of the 73 competitors had crossed the finish line when officials deemed that conditions had deteriorated too much.

Vodcar, a former biathlete and coach, said that 24 hours would be enough for those who had skied the full 10 kilometers to regain their strength. Biathletes are regarded as among the most aerobically fit of winter sportsmen, having to switch quickly from power skiing to total composure for the shooting.

Officials said the last time a halt was called to an Olympic biathlon was at the 1972 games in Sapporo, Japan, when the men's 20-kilometer race was stopped early in the contest.

In the 10-kilometer race, competitors carry 22-caliber rifles and 10 rounds of ammunition. They stop twice to fire at five targets, once in a prone position and once while standing. A 150-meter penalty loop is skied for each missed shot.



Katja Seizinger, center, celebrating Tuesday with her German teammates Martina Ertl, left, and Hilde Gerg.

A Moment  
Of History  
On the IceU.S. Women's Team  
Makes First-Ever Gold  
Beating Canada, 3-1

By Robert Whalen

NAGANO, Japan — The United States women's ice hockey team made history on Tuesday, winning its first Olympic gold medal by defeating Canada 3-1 in the final game of the tournament.

The victory came in a game that was as much a battle of attrition as it was a display of skill. The Americans, led by captain Angela Rasmussen, played a disciplined and defensive game, while the Canadians, led by captain Jocelyne Larocque, played a more aggressive and offensive game.

The game was tied 1-1 in the first period, but the Americans took a 2-1 lead in the second period. Canada tied the game in the third period, but the Americans won the game in the final minutes.

The victory was a historic moment for the United States women's ice hockey team, which had never won an Olympic medal before.

The team's coach, Peter Laviolette, said the team was proud of their achievement and thanked the fans for their support.

The team will now travel to the United States to celebrate their victory and receive the Olympic gold medal.

The team's victory was a testament to their hard work and dedication throughout the tournament.

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## WINTER OLYMPICS

## A Moment Of History On the Ice

U.S. Women's Team Takes First-Ever Gold, Beating Canada, 3-1

By Rachel Alexander  
Washington Post Service

NAGANO, Japan — Karyn Bye was standing there Tuesday, in the middle of the ice, with the rest of her teammates jumping wildly around her. The United States had just become the first ever Olympic gold medalists in women's hockey with a 3-1 victory over Canada, and the American flag that has hung in Bye's room since her junior year of high school was wrapped around her shoulders like a hug.

The scene at Big Hat was spectacular, so much like the end of a stirring movie, that the 8,626 fans in attendance kept their eyes peeled, waiting for the credits to roll. Only this time it was real.

The United States had beaten the favored Canadians, the four-time defending world champions, in the most important women's hockey game ever played. Bitter rivals but partners in history, the two teams sparred throughout

## WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY

the game, with the Americans taking a 2-0 lead before the Canadians stormed back in the third period to tighten the gap to 2-1. But with less than a minute to go and the Canadian goaltender on the bench, forward Sandra Whyte slipped down the left side of the ice and took a long shot into Canada's empty goal. By the time the puck reached the back of the netting, the victory was the Americans', and their lives had changed forever.

"We do not have a National Hockey League for women's hockey, so this was our chance, maybe for a lifetime, to show how great hockey can be," said Sue Merz, an American defenseman. "I've seen the 'Miracle on Ice' of Team USA in 1980 on TV, and I had the memory of that moment in the back of my head when we went out on the ice for this gold medal game."

This game did not have the global political implications of the Miracle on Ice, and the women on the U.S. team are not the unknowns that the 1980 teammates Jim Craig, Mike Eruzione and Bill Baker were. But Tuesday's game had a significance of its own, and every player on the ice knew it. Each had been told at least once in her life that she couldn't play, and many remember scraping by for years on boys' teams because there was nowhere else to go. Women have been competing in world championships only since 1991, and getting their sport full-medal status at these Olympics was an uphill battle.

That may be why, win or lose, everyone seemed transfixed when an International Olympic Committee member, Anita DeFranz, stepped toward the U.S. captain, Cammi Granato, at the beginning of the medal ceremony. Granato, aware she was about to receive the sport's first Olympic gold medal, began gulping for breath, her shoulders heaving. After DeFranz placed the precious disc around her neck, Granato looked up and buried her face in her hands.

"It was a real empty feeling to lose," said the Canadian coach, Shannon Miller. "But when they showed Cammi Granato's face on the big screen and the medal around her neck, my feelings changed completely. I realized a gold medal was being hung around the neck of a female hockey player, and I couldn't believe the effect it had on me."

Until then, Miller and the Canadian players had been a collection of emotional wrecks, shocked into submission by the enormity of what had just happened to them. Canada has won every major game played in women's



Sarah Tuebing, the United States goalie, jumping for joy at the end of the women's hockey final on Tuesday.

ice hockey in the last decade. The United States had vastly improved over the last five years, although the Canadians edged the Americans, 7-6, in a 13-game exhibition series leading up to the Olympics. There was still the overwhelming feeling, shared with the Canadian men's team, that hockey was their game, their religion.

That feeling began to slip slightly on Saturday, when the United States came from behind with six unanswered goals to defeat Canada, 7-4, in a round-robin game. The animosity between the teams also grew that night, when players exchanged words and accusations after the post-game handshakes.

But that game played after the participants of the gold medal game were already determined, didn't mean much. Tuesday's game did, and the Canadians knew it.

Less than a minute after the final buzzer sounded, they lined up on the blue line near their bench, their helmets still on and their sticks in their hands. At the time, the Americans were still piling off their bench and into a big heap near the center of the ice, one player's tears melting into another's. With gloves and sticks tossed about the ice like litter and bodies flying into each other in congratulations, the U.S. side of the rink looked like a fraternity party. The Canadian side looked like a funeral.

"Our hearts definitely went out to them, but there have been so many times before when we've been on that side of it with the silver medal," Granato said.

"The last time they won at the World Championships, I looked over to Lisa Brown-Miller and said, 'are we ever going to do this?'"

They listened to the "Star-Spangled Banner" on Tuesday. Time and time again, conversations and thoughts went back to the Miracle on Ice, which many of these players saw at the young, impressionable ages where dreams roam.

Victoria Movsessian remembers going into her second-grade class the following week and telling all her friends she was the stick girl for the U.S. team, just because she had pretended it so often she thought it might be true.

Bye remembers playing floor hockey with her brother in the basement and doing the fake announcer voice as she wound up to shoot.



HEAT BUILDS FOR ICE SKATERS — Tara Lipinski, the American figure skater, using a rink wall to stretch Tuesday while she watched other skaters during a practice in Nagano, Japan.

## An Olympic Dream Rests With U.S. Skater

Gold Medal for Kwan Could End Coach's 38 Years of Frustrations

By Jere Longman  
New York Times Service

NAGANO, Japan — He has coached figure skating for 38 years, becoming more familiar than he ever wanted with great expectation and heartbreaking letdown.

Finally, at 59, Frank Carroll may win his Olympic gold medal with Michelle Kwan.

He coached Linda Fratianne when she lost the gold medal in 1980, in what many believe was an outcome rigged by

## FIGURE SKATING

Cold War shenanigans. And he coached Christopher Bowman, whose immense talent was squandered by alcohol and drugs.

With Kwan, he does not have to worry about bloc voting or personal indiscretion. At 17, she is the most sophisticated and complete female skater in the world; if she skates her best in the short program Wednesday and the free skate Friday, she will win.

"Only Michelle can lose," said Carol Heiss-Jenkins, the 1960 Olympic champion from the United States.

Carroll has coached her in Lake Arrowhead, California, for five years.

When Kwan answers questions, she often looks to him for security and affirmation.

They often finish each other's sentences. At the recent national championships, Carroll said, "We don't think about gold," to which Kwan responded, "We dream about gold."

If Carroll does not allow himself to think too much about gold, it stems from the disappointment of the 1980 Winter Games in Lake Placid, New York. Fratianne was the defending world champion, but she finished third in compulsory figures and could climb no higher than the silver medal despite winning the short program and long program.

After Carroll's vehement complaints, the figure-eight tracings of compulsory figures were reduced in importance and finally eliminated in 1990. But that hardly soothed his indignation about Fratianne's defeat. To this day, Carroll and others believe that five German-speaking judges conspired to award the women's competition to Anett Poetsch of the then East Germany and the men's competition to Robin Cousins of Britain.

Cousins was coached by Carlo Fassi of Italy, a man famous and infamous for his wheedling and dealing. Fassi, who has since died, denied any jury tampering, but for years he and Carroll did not speak. Fearing that the voting would be rigged, Carroll said he even threatened to pull Fratianne out of the Lake Placid competition.

"I'm very bitter about that," said Carroll, who is otherwise an affable man. "I probably wanted to retire. It was difficult to keep going. I felt it was a done deal before it started."

The shattering defeat "killed" Fratianne, and she could not bear to look at her silver medal for 15 years, Carroll said.

Linda Fratianne thought she had let her country down and thought she was a failure," Carroll said. Finally, in 1995, after her mother died, Fratianne sent Carroll a commemorative pin that had come with her medal, along with a note saying she realized that she had not been a failure, he said.

"It's a sad story, but it's nice to know that she could come out of that and acknowledge she was a wonderful skater," Carroll said.

If Kwan does not win a gold medal here, Carroll said he hoped she would not suffer the same debilitating blow to

her self-esteem. Either way, he said, Kwan is already talking about continuing toward the 2002 Winter Games in Salt Lake City, Utah.

"Is someone's life going to be over because she didn't do a triple lutz?" Carroll said. "A kid's life can't be based on her success here."

He might have already had a gold medalist in Bowman, who is considered by many to be the most talented American figure skater ever. But Bowman's career was ruined by his self-admitted problems with drinking and cocaine.

Bowman finished seventh in the 1988 Calgary Games and kept terrorizing his roommate, Paul Wylie, by coming in late at night, jumping on the bed and screaming, "Good Morning, Vietnam!"

Carroll and Bowman said hello at Skate America last October, but the tension between them remains.

"Are we friends? Would I go to dinner with him? No," Carroll said.

"I don't know if Christopher has straightened himself out. It's not his problem, it's my problem. I'm angry. I gave him a lot of years. I did what I could to help him. If he proves himself clean and sober for a period of time, maybe I can trust him. I can't see having a conversation with someone if you don't believe a word they say."

A native of Worcester, Massachusetts, Carroll began skating on a local pond. Later, as a student at Holy Cross, and practice while the university hockey team awaited its morning practice. When he missed a jump, the hockey players booed and hissed; when he completed a flawless routine, they banged their sticks on the boards in approval.

A junior-level medalist at nationals, Carroll turned professional upon graduation in 1960 and joined the Ice Follies. His salary of \$250 a week, he said, was more than his father, Thomas Carroll, had ever made as superintendent of schools in Worcester. By 1964, he had become a full-time coach and bit-part actor in Los Angeles, appearing in beach movies where, he said, his Irish skin was so pallid that "they had to spray me tan."

"When I'm in the Eiffel Tower in the Jules Verne restaurant, I think, 'What am I doing here? I remember the pond in Worcester,'" Carroll said. "It's funny how life takes you in different directions."

Carroll and Kwan have had their differences, especially when she was 12 and she took the test to jump from the junior rank to senior rank without his knowledge. But otherwise, Carroll said, "It's great to have an athlete who has really worked hard, who has done everything right, who is a real pleasure to be around and who is kind and thoughtful to other people."

Perhaps because of Bowman's unhealthy diversions, Carroll has kept tight reins on Kwan. He has kept her from staying in the Olympic Village. And he ushered her away from a media scrum the other day when the conversation turned to the possibilities of a bad performance.

Two years ago, he convinced Kwan's parents that she was old enough to begin wearing makeup and performing a role as mature and dramatic as Salome.

On a whim last summer, he picked up a compact disk of a Rachmaninoff piano concerto for \$4.95. It became the dramatic accompaniment for Kwan's short program at the national championships that drew perfect artistic marks of 6 from seven of the nine judges.

"Frank has been there," Kwan said. "When he tells you the direction you need to go, you believe him. He showed me the path that led me to where I am today."

## OLYMPIC SCOREBOARD

MEDALS			
COUNTRY STANDINGS			
	Gold	Silver	Bronze
United States	1	0	0
Canada	0	1	0
Germany	0	0	1
France	0	0	1
Italy	0	0	1
China	0	0	1
Japan	0	0	1
South Korea	0	0	1
United States	1	0	0
Canada	0	1	0
Germany	0	0	1
France	0	0	1
Italy	0	0	1
China	0	0	1
Japan	0	0	1
South Korea	0	0	1

WOMEN'S COINTEGRATED			
ALPINE SKIING			
	Gold	Silver	Bronze
1. Martina Ertl, Germany, 1:11.16			
2. Heidi Gerg, Germany, 1:11.29			
3. Hanna Gullik, Italy, 1:11.32			
4. Stefania Schneider, Austria, 1:12.15			
5. Katja Seizinger, Germany, 1:12.22			
6. Monika Bergmann, Germany, 1:12.22			

WOMEN'S COINTEGRATED			
ICE HOCKEY			
	Gold	Silver	Bronze
1. United States, 3-1			
2. Canada, 1-3			
3. Germany, 0-3			
4. France, 0-3			
5. Italy, 0-3			
6. China, 0-3			

SHORT TRACK			
MEN'S 1000M			
	Gold	Silver	Bronze
1. Chae Ji-hoon, South Korea, 1:26.50 (Q)			
2. Satoru Terao, Japan, 1:26.52 (Q)			
3. Yevgen Yakovlev, Ukraine, 1:26.05			
4. Ludovic Mahieu, France, 1:26.07			
WOMEN'S 500M			
	Gold	Silver	Bronze
1. Naoya Tamura, Japan, 1:21.16 (Q)			
2. Fabio Carli, Italy, 1:21.21 (Q)			

SKI JUMPING			
MEN'S 1000M			
	Gold	Silver	Bronze
1. Kim Dong-sung, S. Korea, 1:22.37			
2. Jilin Li, China, 1:22.48			
3. Eric Bedard, Canada, 1:22.54			
4. Lee Jun-hwan, South Korea, 1:22.64			
5. Satoru Terao, Japan, 1:22.66			
WOMEN'S 500M			
	Gold	Silver	Bronze
1. Naoya Tamura, Japan, 1:21.16 (Q)			
2. Fabio Carli, Italy, 1:21.21 (Q)			

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18			
ALPINE SKIING, Slalom — Men's			
1. Michael van Gerwen, 1:11.16			
2. Michael van Gerwen, 1:11.16			
3. Michael van Gerwen, 1:11.16			
4. Michael van Gerwen, 1:11.16			
5. Michael van Gerwen, 1:11.16			
6. Michael van Gerwen, 1:11.16			
7. Michael van Gerwen, 1:11.16			
8. Michael van Gerwen, 1:11.16			
9. Michael van Gerwen, 1:11.16			
10. Michael van Gerwen, 1:11.16			



# IT DOESN'T GET ANY FASTER THAN THIS.



Consider it done.



## OBSERVER

## Big Brother Lives

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — The year 1984 is dead and gone, but Big Brother lives.

His inescapable eye and his ever-present ear are watching, listening.

Use the phone and he'll tape your talk.

Go to bed and he'll bug your mattress. Also your walls, light fixtures, pajamas, sleeping pills, hot-water bottle.

Hug a girl and his wire will make you break out in hives if you are allergic to listening machines attached to women.

Take a walk and he'll film your feet and anyone you chance to meet, poor devils, for they could end up with \$75,000 in lawyer's bills to fend off indictment for meeting a man on the street. A man who was being watched.

George Orwell, who created Big Brother in his novel "1984," envisioned the ever-watching monster as a political tyrant. Orwell loved democracy, but was pessimistic about it. Living in an age of tyrants, he thought 20th-century technology could produce indestructible political dictators.

He was wrong about this. It was the new technology that made tyranny on the Soviet model obsolete. Still, there are tyrannies and tyrannies. A world in which surveillance is inescapable cannot be everyone's dream of a democratic Paradise.

And the surveillance is not confined to officially authorized busybodies like the FBI, Kenneth Starr and your local cop with his radar gun.

It was a private citizen with his own video camera who photographed the Los Angeles police beating Rodney King. Such cameras are everywhere

nowadays. Pick your nose and you could wind up in The National Enquirer.

President Clinton's immediate pickles result because Monica Lewinsky, apparently a compulsive gossamer, talked and talked and talked into a tape recorder on a friend's telephone.

The sensible policy, especially if lawyers are after you, is to stay off the telephone and not talk face-to-face to anyone who refuses to be frisked for hidden radios.

As for cell phones, no sane person will say anything of the slightest consequence on them. You might as well broadcast it on network television, as Prince Charles discovered when the British press published his cell-phone chatter with the woman he loved.

I hear it said that people who have nothing to hide need not fear this strangulating technology of surveillance.

And where are they, these people with nothing to hide?

As the political genius Willie Stark observes in Robert Penn Warren's great political novel, "All the King's Men," man is conceived in sin, born in corruption and goes from the stink of the ditty to the stench of the shroud. "There is something on everybody."

Kenneth Starr has spent years and millions illustrating the truth of Willie's philosophy. For lesser mortals among us, the terrible evidence of Big Brother's triumph comes when you phone a faraway catalogue house and find that a clerk knows your full name, address, phone number and which movie you rented last Tuesday.

But this is progress. We must not whine about progress. Big Brother, we thank thee for knowing us so completely.

New York Times Service

## 'Bridget Jones's Diary': Romance in the '90s

By Warren Hoge  
New York Times Service

LONDON — She is a thirtysomething single Londoner with a messy life who dates losers, can't quit smoking and drinks too much but still managed to lose 72 pounds last year. The same year she gained 74.

Her diary has made her the best friend of hundreds of thousands of British women who recognize her closet drawers crammed with a fury of black opaque pantyhose twisted into ropelike tangles with speckles of tissue as their own, or at least their next-door neighbor's. Her name, Bridget Jones, has become shorthand for the compulsive conduct of young women braving continually collapsing bridges to self-improvement yet trying to maintain an amused perspective on that fraught space between bounding hope and tumbling defeat.

"Bridget Jones's Diary" has been the best-selling novel in Britain for six months and has just won the British Book Award for Book of the Year.

It has brought success unheard of in Bridget's own beset life to her creator, Helen Fielding, a 39-year-old writer who first turned her anti-heroine loose in a newspaper column two years ago and will now send the tales of her gloriously sloppy life to America.

The book, published here by Picador and already in 20 foreign editions, will be published in the United States in July by Viking Penguin.

Since marriage has proved no more lasting nor men any more disposed to commitment in Britain than in the United States, there are more than a million single or divorced women in their 30s here. Virtually all of them may have read the book, since sales of the diary, predominantly to women, have topped 700,000.

Discussing the phenomenon over coffee in her spartan West London walk-up, Fielding said, "I was really, really surprised at all the women who wrote in saying they identified with Bridget because a lot of her thoughts are very paranoid, and when you realize that so many women have the same thoughts, it's massively reassuring but at the same time alarming." She widened her eyes and cocked her head.

"We're all mad," she hissed.

In recent decades, popular women's literature in Britain has moved from soft-focus adventures and "clogs and shawls" village green romances to bodice rippers and sex and shopping books by authors whose heavily made-up faces often double as cover art. "Bridget Jones's Diary" seems to have ushered in a new phase.

"What we're seeing now," said Fanny Blake, a free-lance writer specializing in the publishing industry, "is the growth of a brave new women's fiction humorously and realistically addressing themes recognizable to women trying to make



Helen Fielding, the voice of Bridget Jones, in her kitchen in London.

their way in their 20s and 30s: often career women with disposable income, unable to find either a heterosexual man or anything in the fridge."

The book and the column recount Bridget's life in a format that begins each day with a judgmental totting up of number of calories consumed, cigarettes smoked, alcohol "units" imbibed, lottery instant tickets bought and weight gained. ("From where? Why? Why?")

Time entries clock the painfully procrastinating progress of her day with periodic alarms at the doleful emptiness of her life compared with the overflowing fullness of others. "9:30 A.M. Cannot face thought of entire Sunday stretching ahead with everyone else in the world except me in bed with someone giggling and having sex."

No reverie is deep enough not to be dropped instantly with the exclamation, "Ooh goody, telephone." Disasters never stop occurring; those reaching crisis call for summit meetings at the local pub with her two best girlfriends, Jude and Shazzer, and her gay friend, Tom, whose sepulchral-voiced counsel is always, "Only women bleed." Over cigarettes and pints, they vow to give up smoking and drinking and develop "inner poise."

The sheer awfulness of men over 30 provokes frenzies of outrage. They are described as "stupid, smug, arrogant, manipulative" and worse. "They exist in a total Culture of Entitlement. Pass me one of those mini-pizzas, will you?"

Bridget is a cook who sees her velouté of tomato come out

blue and foaming because she left detergent in the blender. She goes to the gym just to buy sandwiches and won't go near a dressing room. "Everyone stares sneakily at each other's bodies, but no one ever meets anyone's eye. There are always girls who know that they look fantastic in everything and dance around beaming, swinging their hair and doing model poses in the mirror saying 'Does it make me look fat?' to their obligatory obese friend who looks like a water buffalo in everything."

Her world is divided in two parts, singletons vs. smug marrieds. The smug marrieds are the ones who on spotting a singleton imitate the ticking sound of a body clock. The singletons are the ones close to Fielding's heart. "I think 'singleton' is a very useful word to describe yourself if you're not married: much better than spinster or bachelorette," she said. "Everyone now thinks that 'bachelor' means gay scoutmaster. And spinster is this tragic Miss Havisham-like person who's going to end up 35 in a jersey lilac dressing gown with 15 cats imagining that the vicar is in love with her."

A 1979 graduate of Oxford, Fielding worked in television for 10 years before writing a novel and becoming a feature writer at The Independent, where an editor asked her to base a column on her own life. She opted for an alter ego. "You can be so much more honest if it's not supposed to be your own life," she said. "You can shamelessly detail exactly what goes on in the three hours between waking up and leaving for work late."

After the first columns, she thought, "This is self-conscious, stupid, who wants to read this? Then people started to say they liked it, and, being, as my agent says, as shallow as a puddle, I immediately admitted it was me since it was praise." Now she is composing the screen version of the diary, writing a sequel with a May deadline and continuing to do the weekly column, now in The Daily Telegraph.

Ask about Bridget, and Fielding lights up, moving into a girl-talk, confessional position at the edge of the sofa and flashing a mischievously dimpled smile. "I'm very fond of Bridget," she says unnecessarily. "The thing I love about her is she is never bitter, and she doesn't blame anyone else. She's always optimistic and picks herself up."

The material can't run out. "My friends are very good and will always ring when something useful happens," she said. "One of them just told me about a girl who got a phone call from a man saying, 'You're having a shower, aren't you?' and she immediately covered herself up and thought there must be some pervert looking in the window. And she said, 'How do you know?' and the man said, 'Because the water is dripping through my ceiling.'"

These days in Britain, this would be pronounced a perfect Bridget Jones moment.

## PEOPLE

THREE weeks after undergoing emergency surgery to replace her left hip, the 97-year-old Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother left King Edward VII Hospital in London on Tuesday.

The crowd of 150 outside the hospital burst into applause as the Queen Mum made her own way to her waiting car. She stopped outside the hospital door and waved to the crowd, leaning on a silver-topped walking stick. Then, holding the banister, she walked unaided down three steps to the sidewalk and got into her car. A nurse who accompanied her handed her a bouquet of yellow flowers. "She is doing wonderfully," grandson Prince Charles told Independent Television News. "She is amazing."

Led Zeppelin veterans Robert Plant and Jimmy Page were in Zagreb, Croatia, on Tuesday, preparing to kick off their second tour together since the rock group disbanded. HINA press agency said that they would begin the tour on Saturday with a concert in Zagreb's Dom Sportova sports hall. They will then go to Budapest,

Prague, Katowice, Poland, Bucharest, Sofia and Istanbul. The tour is to promote a new album that is due out in March.

Elton John performed, but the real star of the AIDS benefit was the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas. John's concert marked the opening of the new Studio 54 nightclub at the Las Vegas Strip resort, a major part of a \$700 million renovation. Gone was the resort's Wizard of Oz motif at its main entrance. "This isn't Oz anymore," MGM Grand's chief executive, Alex Yemendjian, said. He said the concert was expected to raise more than \$1 million for the AIDS Foundation.

The lights went out at Carnegie Hall in New York just as the soprano Kathleen Battle was singing an aria from Verdi's "Aida" to the accompaniment of the Minnesota Orchestra, led by Elji Oue. Battle, who has a reputation for temperament, proved a trouper and kept on singing. The musicians couldn't read

the score, but Oue, who conducts from memory, managed to maintain order. "We all have that piece memorized. It's like walking to your kitchen in the dark," he said.

The Australian supermodel Elle Macpherson gave birth to a boy over the weekend in New York. The baby was named Arpad Flynn Busson after his father, the Daily Telegraph of Sydney said, and his parents will call him Flynn.

James Cameron, the director of "Titanic," could get a lot more than just accolades for his stunningly successful film. Newsweek reports that studio heads are so jubilant over box-office receipts they are considering paying Cameron fees that he agreed to waive to keep costs under control. Newsweek said that based on box-office receipts to date, Cameron's sacrifice amounts to about \$50 million. "I feel like a chump every time I discuss waiving my deal," the magazine quoted him as saying.

## Rauschenberg Works Seized In Legal Dispute With Creditor

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Fifteen works of art by Robert Rauschenberg were removed from the walls of the Menil Collection in Houston by deputies carrying out a court order in a suit against the artist by a creditor.

The art — a group of paintings, photographs, collages, prints and sculptures — was part of a retrospective of Rauschenberg's work running through May 17.

The deputies, from the Harris County Constable's Office, were following orders from a state District Court in Austin, which allowed the work to be seized to help collect \$5.5 million owed to Alfred Kren, an art dealer from Austin and a consultant for the Austin Art Consortium.

Kren says the artist owes him for unpaid commissions. The value of the seized works has not been determined.

Unless Rauschenberg pays the money, the seized works, on loan from the artist's collection, will be sold at auction, said Eric Taube, Kren's lawyer.

Rauschenberg refused to appear before an Austin court to respond to the lawsuit. Then, a hearing was held and a judge ruled that Rauschenberg owed Kren the money. On Jan. 9, the court ordered the constable to seize any property of Rauschenberg's in Texas.

Theodore Kheel, Rauschenberg's lawyer, called the seizures "a pressure device to force a settlement."



Elton John at Studio 54: Good-bye Yellow Brick Road.

(at your service)

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Egypt (Cairo)	510-42200	Italy	172-1011	Switzerland	0800-89-0011
France	0-800-99-0011	Netherlands	0800-022-9111	United Kingdom	0800-89-0011
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How the U.S. P...  
Ade of Low Altitudes...

WASHINGTON — President Clinton's administration is expected to announce a new policy on the use of low-altitude flights by U.S. military aircraft over the Persian Gulf. The policy is expected to be announced in the next few weeks. The new policy is expected to be more restrictive than the current policy, which allows U.S. military aircraft to fly at low altitudes over the Persian Gulf. The new policy is expected to require U.S. military aircraft to fly at higher altitudes over the Persian Gulf. The new policy is expected to be announced in the next few weeks.

## AGENDA

## U.S. B-1 Bomber

## Fishes in Kentucky

## Raiser 1-Inducted

## WASHINGTON

## The Dollar

## The Dow

## S&amp;P 500

## Newest Prices

## 1000 P.M. Rates

## 1200 P.M. Rates

## 1500 P.M. Rates

## 1800 P.M. Rates

## 2100 P.M. Rates

## 2400 P.M. Rates

## 2700 P.M. Rates

## 3000 P.M. Rates

## 3300 P.M. Rates

## 3600 P.M. Rates

## 3900 P.M. Rates

## 4200 P.M. Rates